

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

Students – support LCC's bond. Vote yes on Ballot Measure 20-142.

TI 83 Plus and TI 89 calculators \$60 each. 541-729-6044.

For sale – Nice leather briefcase. Black, in good condition. Only \$20. Call Paul 541-688-7696.

Students who use tutors learn more and have more fun. Don't wait until it gets too crowded! Tutor Central (below the bookstore) has a list of locations.

"Slime Time" Harvest Party FREE! Kids and parents have a fun, safe, warm and stress free Halloween! Candy, games, fun activities (in a disguised school gym) Oct. 31, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Neighborhood Church, 815 Irving Rd. Santa Clara area. Questions? Call 688-4121.

## NEED HELP WITH ODD JOBS -

Negotiate pay for deck painting, garden clean-up, etc. South Eugene location, can provide transportation if needed.
541-686-8604.

Certified bike mechanic for hire cash or trade. E-mail noah@mail.ie.

Remember – The next president will be appointing the next Supreme Court Justices.

Break Into Print, Graphic Design, Editing, Management, Poetry, Literature, Photography, Painting, Art, Experience, Denali.

Apply for a position that will give you valuable life experience.

About: Application packets are now available for the 2008-09 Denali Editor in Chief in the Torch office, Building 18, Room 214, Lane Community College, 4000 E. 30th Ave. Eugene, Ore. The deadline for returning application packets is Monday, Oct. 20, at noon, to Dorothy Wearne, Room 214.

Fine print: The Denali editor selects and manages the 2008-2009 student staff, organizes the production schedule, and has the final word on all matters concerning the magazine. He/she must have a concrete understanding of, or the commitment to learn, the technical skills of the production process of a magazine. He/she can expect to work at least 20 hours per week. A background in literature and art is recommended. Knowledge of desktop publishing is extremely helpful. The editor must be an officially registered LCC student and must maintain a 2.00 GPA or higher. The Denali editor will be paid a stipend of \$550 per term and will serve Fall, Winter and Spring terms of the 2008-2009 academic year.

# The Torch

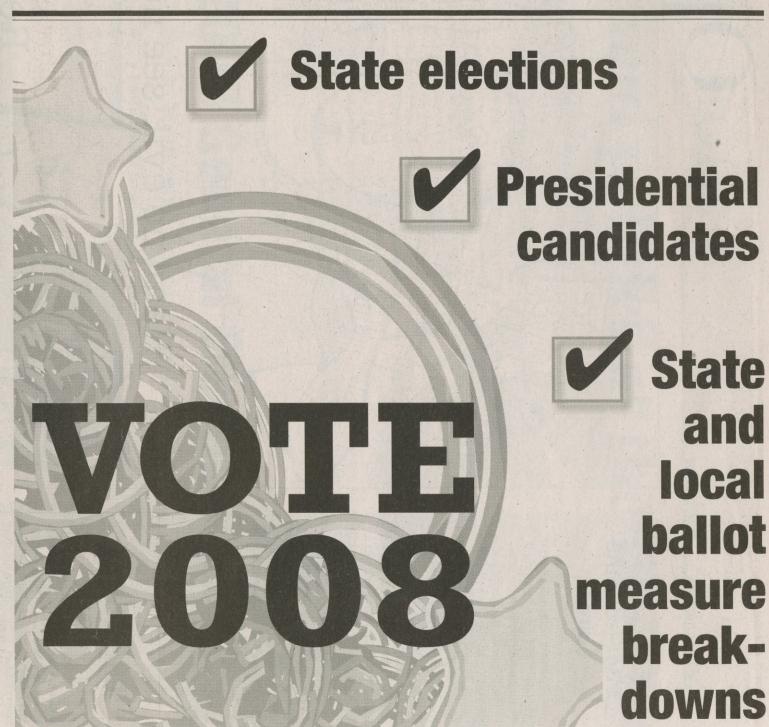
LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SINCE 1964

VOLUME XLIII, NUMBER 3

OCTOBER 16, 2008

## SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE



## Opinion

## Letter from the editor

We live in America, where many people believe that open, free elections are an essential part of a healthy democracy.

This special election issue is dedicated to the citizens of this democracy. Well, maybe just those who live in this general vicinity and will pick up and read a copy of this issue.

The importance of participating and being educated about political goings-on can vary incredibly from one person to the next.

I hope that whatever level of interest or political leaning, every person who reads this issue feels more informed about the various candidates and measures on the ballot.

Lana Boles Editor in Chief

### The Torch

STAFF

Lana Boles
Willa Bauman
Bennett Mohler
Taryn Ackelson
Isaac Viel
Jenn Karlen
Ryoko Fujihara
Bob Rodgers
Duane Shrode
Dillon Blanks
Tyler Pell
Scott Hartman
Arielle BarLev
William Cook
Ken Ashcraft
.Grant Williamson
James Kennedy

Production Adviser Dorothy Wearne

News & Editorial Adviser Frank Ragulsky

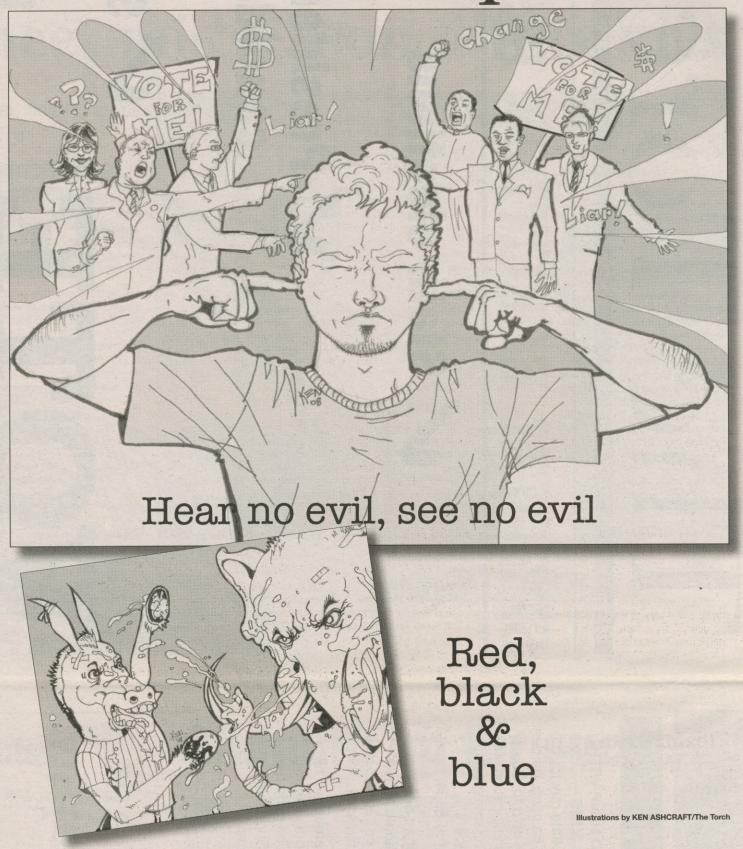
#### Contact us

Editor in Chief	463-5655
Newsroom	463-5881
Production	463-5109
Advertising	463-5654

E-mail: Torch@lanecc.edu Ads: Torchads@lanecc.edu Mail: The LCC Torch Builing 18, Room 218 4000 E. 30th Ave. Eugene, Ore. 97405

The official sudent-managed newspaper of Lane Community College is published every Thursday. Up to two copies per person per issue of The Torch are free; each additional copy is \$2.

Letters to the editor should be limited to 300 words. Commentaries should be limited to 750 words. Please include the author's name, phone number and address (phone number and address are used for verification purposes only and are not made public). The Torch reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language. The Torch reserves the right to publish or not to publish at its discretion.



## May every voice be heard

Editorial

by Arielle BarLev

Reporter

Both local and national politics seem to be on the minds of everyone at LCC right now. With members of the Oregon Students Association, Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group and the entire Student Vote

Coalition breathing down the necks of all students and administrators, who can blame us? Seriously though, the SVC has done an amazing job of making propositions and

voting on laws known to everyone, and not just on our campus.

Ben Ramsden-Stein, OSPIRG campus supervisor at LCC, has made known that OSPIRG is a statewide program hitting all of the state and city college campuses. The leader of OSPIRG actually spends most of her time at the University of Oregon. UO is a bigger campus with more unregistered first-time voters. The goal of Oregon is to register a minimum of 40,000 citizens that would not have otherwise had the opportunity to cast a ballot. A goal, which as of the Oct. 8 voter registration blitz, has just about been reached.

Fourty thousand is an amazingly high number! Especially considering that California, with a much higher population than Oregon, has registered a mere 30,000 new voters.

Mara Ventura states the overwhelming feeling best, with a busting wide smile

that she is "really proud of Lane students!" Our campus has done a great job of getting involved; from here on out it is our generation's duty to let legislation know how they can help us.

Students graduating nationwide, have borrowed an average of \$19,237, which they now have the overwhelming pressure to pay back!

One LCC student who was found working the

BBQ with the "blood, sweat, and tears" of the Associated Student of LCC Vice President Jonathon Morton, just wants to make the government aware of the money crisis that is overpowering many students.

The BBQ, held just outside of the cafeteria on Thursday, Oct. 9 was the SVC's "way of saying thank you" to all of the people at LCC who have shown an interest in the future of students everywhere.

Even before this past week started, students like Christy Johnson have been dedicated to working the non-partisan registration booths all over campus while taking classes, working and raising a family!

That's how important gaining voting power is. It doesn't matter who or what you vote for, the SVC is completely nonpartisan. All they request is that each voice be heard.

That is why students such as Josh Canaday, James Manning and so many more keep "walking around with a clipboard." Because

they aren't afraid to say they believe our generation should be heard and they know that it's important to ask this much of us.

Even after this election is over, groups like the OSA and OSPIRG will keep working. On non-election years, they stay busy holding low-cost luncheons for legislation, providing meals of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and a banana to make the politicians aware of the type of food students can afford

Many individuals out there believe their vote for something as large as the presidency won't be heard, or maybe that a vote for either Obama or McCain would be a mistake.

As it has been pointed out, though, it is still important to vote. You might wish to leave your choice for president blank, but don't forget all of the other choices still up in the air. The choice for our next city mayor or any local politician probably affects us more. Or don't vote for any representation at all. Just vote for or against whichever laws you choose.

Manning wants to remind us of the Letter to the Editor he wrote and submitted to The Torch last month about a lady whose one vote truly did make the difference. "If you vote, your vote will be heard, but if you don't it won't," he said.

On behalf of LCC, I hope that everyone will appreciate the hard work that fellow students have done on our behalf and get out there and vote.

# Opinion Oregon senate race

#### Smith vs. Merkley

By WILLIAM COOK Reporter

Since 1997, Republican Senator Gordon Smith has served in the U.S. Senate as one of the two elected senators from Oregon. With his current term coming to a close at the end of the current session of congress, he seeks re-election. His Democratic opponent is Jeff Merkley, the current Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives. Both won their party's nominations in the Oregon primary election, held on May 20.

What followed is considered by many to be one of the most negative senatorial races in recent history. Television ads sprung up across the state dismantling both of the nominee's reputations. The relevance of the negativity in the ads became even more pertinent in a debate between the two on Oct. 9. The topic was stated as having "generated a lot of email" and was the first topic broached in the debate.

'There's been a lot of negative ads on both sides," Pat Dooris, of KGW News Channel 8 in Portland, said. "And before you tell me it wasn't your campaign, it was somebody else, let me tell you with all due respect ... it's done to help you and hurt your opponent.'

The other parties that Dooris referred to are groups throughout Oregon that show support to either Smith or Merkley. Many of these groups choose to run their own personal advertisements on television to help garner support. Smith's and Merkley's own personal ads are always followed by a statement saying that they "approve of this

"They're tough ads," Smith said. "I don't like them ... but they're important issues that need to be defined for people." These important issues range from taxes to the Iraq War to our crumbling

Tax-wise, Jeff Merkley's plan will cut taxes for 95 percent of workers and families, focusing on helping the middle-class get ahead. He also plans to fight to eliminate tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas.

Smith's campaign contends that Merkley loves to raise taxes and produced some statistics. Supposedly while in the Oregon legislature Merkley voted to raise taxes nine times, voted for higher fees three times and voted against tax relief 18 times. While he may have voted in the past to raise taxes, Merkley has stated he wishes to lower them in the future. This is just one of the issues that voters will have to consider before marking their ballots

Both nominees have extensive experience in politics. Smith has been serving in the position he is running for since he was first elected in 1997. Before then, he served since 1992 in the Oregon State Senate, of which he became president in 1995. During his years in the United States Senate, Smith has been on multiple committees, some of which include commerce, energy and natural resources, and finance.

Merkley started out his career with a job in the Pentagon, working as a national security analyst, before he decided to join congress. In 1998 he was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives. He was elected as speaker of the group in 2006 and has served in that position since.

The final election decision will be made on Nov. 4, election day. The victor will join democrat Ron Wyden as one of Oregon's two senators

Ron Wyden has endorsed Jeff Merkley's cam-

Merkley's pros:

1. Merkley's tax plan will cut taxes for 95% of workers and families in a move that will help the

2. Merkley's Grow Oregon plan will work to

ensure that young people have opportunities to remain in their communities, raise a family and enjoy a good quality life in rural Oregon.

3. Merkley plans to fight to protect children and families from violent crime. Merkley will crack down on sex offenders and methamphetamine producers, protect victims of violent crimes, and add 50,000 more police on the street.

Smith's pros:

1. Smith believes that we should be able to keep as much of our money as possible.

2. Smith understands the importance of bringing our troops home from Iraq.

3. Smith believes no one should be priced out of quality health care.

Merkley's cons:

1. Merkley loves to raise taxes. While in the Oregon legislature, Merkley voted to raise taxes nine times. He voted for higher fees three times and he voted against tax relief 18 times. And Merkley cosponsored legislation to increase tax-

2. At a time when Oregon faced more than a billion dollar budget shortfall, Merkley voted to build a parking garage and spend nearly \$200 million for construction and renovation of state offices and facilities.

3. Oregon is the number one lumber producing state in the United States and 85,000 people are employed in the state's timber industry. But Merkley voted against a plan that aimed to expand logging in Oregon.

Smith's cons:

1. Smith has been in office since 1997 and while experience, many people, along with democrat Steve Novick, believe that it is time for a change

2. Smith voted for the authorization for use of military force against Iraq back in 2002, but now wishes to pull out of Iraq to focus on "fighting against terrorists.'

## sheep heed leaders

#### Do not pass 'go!' Okay, collect \$700 billion...

By JAMES KENNEDY Ad Manager

The notion of personal leadership exonerates; opinions of leadership, aside. Bless the heart who believes in the human heart: 'He', who thinks of one-magical-unity and solitary-beamof-light, radiating true and pure, forth from the land of sky-dwelling beings; in nectar left over from all the death around us.

I see a fun, play-along game of show-and-tell where the players feel very special; my friend Asa Downing put it best: "a snowflake, building an

"Invest in Campbell's Soups," says

Either way, points point towards, "Let's stay alive, you and me."

The history of bailouts on http:// propublica.com gestures at some figures which indicate three bailouts in the 1970s, three bailouts in the 1980s, and six bailouts in the 2000s. Not one bailout bill made it through Congress in

"Only sheep heed leaders" claims a sticker attached to an LCC telephone

"If sheep live in a field with no fence," I wonder, "do they notice the difference between the open field and one where a shepherd reigns o'er them with a fence and crook?"

The two puppets propositioned at us by MEDIA suggest a diversion: a division of movements moving towards a similar future, future in which a warm, cozy bed and a hot delicious meal awaits us all. A future that takes no energy and gives everything we need. An element exists to regulate movement and time, the exertion of major force, and blind ambition. We all gather together and apart on mutual and separate grounds. We wonder constantly at our ambiguous future, interested, most, in the most unperceivable inquiry. Have we all played 'King-for-a-day'

My choice to express my democratic adventure lies in absentee voting.

A mail-in ballot, not included; I abstain from pressing a ballpoint into a box, even if only to press it out of that box immediately following.

'What!?" shouts a signature-hound, a beauty of a being.

"I don't do that drug," I reply reck-

lessly. "How will you change anything?" she vells impulsively.

"I breathe!" shouted upon the wind, sounds like sarcasm.

My constituents, I implore you: Please, when you greet that moment of democracy called voting, "Vote for Me!" Not the person you see credited in this column's "by-line" as they say, but the 'Me' you know as your own self. The proverbial pronoun within us all.

To obtain a democracy that rules from the heart of each individual requires more signatures than will ever fit on any declaration of independence or bill of rights or constitution of any states. I hear the world telling me to "grow up!" in order to make anything of myself. Even clay must endure trialby-fire to transform into a bowl.

Asking questions usually leads to more questions. 'Will you remember what you want?" I wonder. "Will you take what you need and leave the rest for the rest?" Or "will you awaken to the magnificent beginning of endless possibility?" I believe each choice lies with 'me' indefinitely.

### Letters to the Editor

from socialist and communist so-called utopias. Something to think about!

> Tom Busch LCC student

#### Track records

From Jim Torrey declining to say which president he intends to support I surmise that he plans to vote for McCain.

Here are some things people need to know about Sarah Palin. Before her mayoral race, Vasilis had no affiliation. Her running was known as an intrusion statewide partisan politics in municipal elections. She put pressure on librarian Mary Ellen Emmons at a time when she knew her job was on the line.

A censorship campaign was already in process with self-appointed Christian right censors removing books they found offensive. Countless other people lost their jobs who did not agree with her politics.

Palin proposed an ordinance that would limit the number of resident to four in halfway houses and group homes.

She, as Governor, spoke to graduating students of a Christian high school that the war in Iraq was "god's plan" as was the gas pipelines she was persuading a Canadian company to build. She now supports drilling in Alaska National Wildlife Refuge.

For more info go to Washington Spectator, "Palin's Path to Power" by Lov Debose 10/1/2008

I know Torrey to say anything to get elected. His interests are with big business. I have known him to be very exclusive of public hearing and

Kitty Piercy has and continues to be very inclusive of our community and is very personable! I have worked with her for women's rights and choice.

When she was recently under attack by Torrey, she was clearly upset. It was because attack politics hurt ALL of us. She has addressed the issues of sustainability and transportation. She considers all views even opposing before she makes decisions.

Will we take our future seriously and realistically look at candidate's track records?

> Ceila Levine Eugene

### Be heard here and now

It's important now more than ever that students have a voice and are yelling loud and

You've all seen the Student Vote Coalition around campus and many of you turn your heads and act annoyed as if being asked for money by an anonymous group.

We, the Student Vote Coalition, are a group of students volunteering our time registering students to vote because we care and we know, in time, we will create access to higher education for all people interested.

In the last presidential election, the Student Vote Coalition registered 33,617 students to vote. The next legislation, students won a historical victory for need-based aid. After registering 22,000 in 2006, Oregon Colleges and Universities received the largest reinvestment in post-secondary education since 1999: need-based aid more than doubled for Oregon Students

This is an excellent victory worth making note of, however this is just a small eppingstone in the world of post education.

Oregon college students still struggle to get a degree. High tuition can defer low-income students, students of color and rural students from attending college. Those who do make it to college, like me, are struggling to get by and have accrued loan debt, which limits the very opportunities we went to school for, such as having our choice of careers and helping the community at large.

Where will this country evolve if we continue to limit access to post-secondary education? Now is the perfect opportunity to stand up in the name of education. Students are voting because we know the legislatures are beginning to realize we are not apathetic and, with our vote and support, they can get into office, which means they'll have to prioritize our issues. Postsecondary education isn't a privilege; it's a right. It's crucial. Stand up and cast your vote.

> Meghan Krueger LCC student

### Obama's experience is questioned in a critical time in history

Let's take a look at this: what has Obama done specifically for the economy in his three years in the Senate? The answer is nothing. Take a long look at the district he represents in Chicago. If there is any change and hope, the people he represents there have certainly not seen it. But then again, two-thirds of his time in the U.S. Senate was spent running for President, and most of the rest of the time was spent with safe votes of present!

That's something to think about.

Also, because of his interesting group of friends and political connections, Obama would not even be able to enlist as an agent in the secret service after a very basic background check. Makes one think about things. In my opinion, being under qualified is an understatement; we live in a crucial time in history, and I do not believe we can afford to take such dramatic risks.

The great Democratic Party is no longer the party it was during the Truman-through-Kennedy era. It has been hi-jacked by extremist leftists that want to turn the United States in to ASSR -American Soviet Socialist Republic.

In my opinion, capitalism, not socialism, is the wave of the future.

The real reason the United States has had such strength and influence, politically, militarily and economically, is because of innovation, friendly competition and the government backing off except to defend us against foreign and domestic enemies. This way of thinking was superior and is the very reason why the Soviet Union could not keep up with us and failed.

An economic system controlled by the government is doomed to failure as is the basic standard of living and self worth.

I stand by what our founding fathers had in

mind. I believe even JFK would not be allowed in the Democratic National Convention by today's extreme liberal standards.

Also, we should remember that it's the Republicans that ended slavery under Lincoln, and have always been against segregation.

Also, in closing, 97 percent of all immigrants that have moved to the United States have come

## Local ballot measures

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-137

Local option levy renewal for 4J schools

Local Option Levy Renewal 2008: Ballot Measure 20-137 is a property tax to fund 4J school operations. The current levy, which expires 2010, was approved by voters in 2000 and renewed in 2004.

The ballot measure would renew the levy for another five years at the same tax rate. If approved, the levy would generate \$15 to \$17 million per year. This is roughly equivalent to the cost of operating a high school, middle school and elementary school for one

If approved, the levy would maintain current school programs and staffing levels. Without the levy, the school district would need to reduce its budget by about 10 percent, from 2010 onwards.

Unlike a bond, a levy can fund aspects of administration besides renovations of infrastructure or new buildings. The Lo-. cal Option Levy would pay for school programs and staff.

Because the levy is a renewal of the current levy, taxpayers would continue to pay about the same amount, which is projected at \$1.48 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Currently, Oregon public schools are funded from a combination of property taxes and state funds, which come mainly from state income taxes. The state allows a Local Option Levy to add to the funding set by the state to pay for programs and staff.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-138

Willamalane Park and Rec District after-school programs

Local Bond Measure 20-138, for Springfield, would enable Willamalane Park and Recreation District to expand its after-school program. If passed, the levy would sustain and expand after-school programs and summer youth activity programs.

Additional funding would come in the form of levying 32.5 cents per every \$1,000 on assessed value per year over a five-year period.

Springfield Academic Family Enrichment is the current after-school program offered by Willamalane Park and Recreation District in collaboration with the Springfield School District. However, SAFE is currently being funded by federal grants that will soon

Measure 20-138 would continue the SAFE program, and expand its services.

The SAFE program now serves low-income students in six Lane County schools. If the levy passes, the program would expand to 17 schools, and to students of all income and academic levels.

THE TORCH

SAFE enrolls about 370 kids. The expanded program would enroll up to 2,175 students.

The levy would be used to increase the opportunities for children who currently do not have adequate after-school supervision, providing students with structure from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and when schools are closed during in-service days, holiday breaks and throughout the summer.

The new SAFE program would be amplified to provide a mix of recreational and educational services, such as literacy support, homework club, games, arts, and technology.

The levy would produce an estimated \$1.4 million for each of the next five years for a total estimation of \$7 million.

Passing this measure could mean an increase of at least three percent in property tax-

The owner of an average home in Springfield, valued at \$108,000, would pay \$2.93 per month or about \$35 per year. The Democratic Party of Lane County has added this measure to its list of state and local measures they support "based

the DPLC platform." Willamalane currently has an \$11.8 million operating bud-

on the measure's adherence to

Sixty one percent of Willamalane's funding comes from property taxes.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-139

Suislaw School District 97J, five-year option levy

Measure 20-139 is a five-year local tax option levy for Siuslaw school operations.

The question is whether or not School District 97J should impose a 95-cent tax per \$1,000 of assessed property values to support operations for five years beginning in 2009. A continued level of acceptable service being the aim, the ballot could increase property taxes by more than three per-

As many as 15-20 positions may be eliminated without this additional revenue, leading to increased class sizes. Some classes may have to be considered for elimination as well. Classes on the chopping block include advanced math, U.S. history, anatomy and physiology, art, choir, culinary arts, vocational offerings and athletics.

Budget cuts in the past six years have been in excess of \$3.4 million. Reductions in administration, athletics, band, supplies, textbooks, classroom teachers, librarians, maintenance, instructional aids, gifted programs and operations have severely impacted the district. A statement in the measure claims that students who participate in extra curricular school-based activities are more likely to be successful in school.

Those interested in what the levy will cost them may want to visit http://www.localoption2008.com and plug their property values into the Local Option Calculator. An example cited on the website states that a Florence home with a value of \$140,000 would have an estimated local option tax of somewhere near \$133 per year, slightly over \$11 per month.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-140

\$1.1 million to pay for a new swimming pool in

> If bond measure 20-140 passes, a new swimming pool in Veneta will cost taxpayers \$1.1 million over a 20-year period. The City of Veneta plans to build a new six-lane 25-yard outdoor pool to replace the old one. Plans also include a shallow wading pool, a therapeutic spa and dressing and shower

The total cost of constructing the pools and facilities is estimated to be \$3.1 million. The bond would cover one-third of the cost. The City of Veneta would cover the remaining expenses, supplemented by grants, private donations and \$300,000 from an insurance settlement from the old pool.

The \$1.1 million in general obligation bonds are set to mature over 20 years, or less, after issuance. This would cost the average homeowner in Veneta \$34.16 each year, which is 28 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value of their homes.

Heavy rains during a November 2006 storm caused the pool, drained for repairs, to float out of the ground. Since then, residents of Veneta have to go into Eugene to Amazon Pool at 26th Avenue and Hilyard Street to reach the closest outdoor pool.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-141

Authorization of a gas tax on motor vehicle fuel

The City of Creswell has proposed an ordinance that would impose a tax on motor vehicle fuel dealers of 3 cents per gallon. The ordinance provides administration and enforcement collection of the tax.

The total net revenue from the tax would be used for construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, and operation of the public highways, roads, and streets within the city limits of Creswell.

Estimates from Creswell officials conclude that the town's two gas stations pump about 6 million gallons of gas per year. At that rate, the gas tax would raise \$180,000 per year, which would be enough to cover the loss of the county road maintenance funds, but not enough to take care of other major re-

If Creswell residents approve the tax measure, the town will

join Coburg, Cottage Grove, Eugene, Oakridge, Springfield and Veneta in charging a fuel tax to help cover maintenance and repair of city streets. Last fall, Junction City rejected a 5 cents per gallon gas tax proposal, and Florence voters turned down a proposed 3 cent gas tax in 2005.

Like other towns in Lane County, Creswell's street maintenance funding gap is expected to fall further into the red this year because of the county's loss of federal funds. In Creswell, that means about \$145,000 less in transportation

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-142

County measure promises help for college infrastructure

Lane County Bond Measure 20-142 could give LCC a financial boost. If passed, the measure would provide \$83 million for renovating outdated infrastructure and instructional technology.

Some of the changes to be addressed by the bond would be boiler and roof replacements, new management systems to increase energy efficiency, technology updates and improvements to increase accessibility for disabled students, employees and faculty.

If LCC does not receive the \$83 million from the bond, the college will have to pay for some of the more major renovations out of its operational budget.

Paying for the renovations out of the already-existing budget would put a huge strain on LCC's already tight finances, and prevent more minor operational tasks from getting done, which could lead to a similar situation in a few years.

Bond Measure 20-142 is designed to replace a bond from 1995 that helped build parts of the Cottage Grove center, and renovated Building 1 on Main campus. Because the 1995 bond is expiring this year, taxpayers would see a zero to marginal increase on their taxes if the bond measure were to be passed.

Both mayoral candidates have come out strongly in support of the bond.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-143

Funding for Santa Clara **Rural Fire Protection** District

The Santa Clara Rural Fire Protection District wants voters to approve a tax of 60 cents per \$1,000 of assessed land value in Lane County.

The five-year local option tax would be used for operations and capital improvements of Santa Clara RFPD beginning fiscal year 2009-10.

This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than 3 percent. The estimated increase on a home assessed at \$150,000 would be \$90.

The proposed rate would garner approximately \$317,249 in 2009-10 and increase by about \$10,000 every fiscal year for the following four years, culminating in 2014 with an estimated total of \$1,664,315.

These totals are estimates made by the county assessor. The District claims it is currently experiencing difficulty in replacing obsolete equipment.

The funds would be used to maintain current programs and levels of operation, replace computer equipment, old heat pumps and fire apparatus.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-144

South Lane County Fire and Rescue funds

Ballot Measure 20-144 is a proposed five-year local option tax levy that would benefit South Lane County Fire and Rescue by providing funds for staffing and operations.

If approved, it would add 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed land value for five years beginning in 2009. For a \$150,000 property, measure 20-144 would increase taxes by \$112.50 per year.

The county assessor estimated that the proposed rate would provide approximately \$5,659,598 over five years.

The funds would be used for maintaining fire and rescue services, increasing the force by six firefighter/paramedics and providing necessary protective gear, purchasing two new ambulances and hiring a fire marshal for building inspections.

SLCF&R provides fire fighting and rescue services to Creswell, Cottage Grove and rural South Lane County, more than 10,000 residences across nearly 150 square miles of Lane County.

It currently employs 12 firefighters and medics, and has 40 volunteers who responded to 2,800 emergency calls in 2007.

The SLCF&R currently gets 55 percent of its funding from property taxes, 44.5 percent from FireMed membership fees and ambulance services and the remaining from other

The current tax rate for the district is \$1.0335 per \$1,000

> See Ballot Measure, PAGE 5

www.lcctorch.com

#### **BALLOT MEASURE, From PAGE 4**

of assessed land value. If approved, this measure would increase that rate to \$1.7835.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-145

\$35.9 million in general obligation bonds to fix roads, bike paths

> Bond Measure 20-145 would generate a total of \$35.9 million to finance the restoration of Eugene streets.

> The bonds will mature over a five-year period, generating \$6.5 million, plus inflation, annually.

> The funds would pay for the repair of 32 streets in Eugene, totaling 70 miles.

> Each year \$350,000 would be used to fix three miles of bike and pedestrian paths.

> Money generated from the bond measure would be used only for the streets listed in the ballot measure, resolution 4953. Only after all of the listed street projects have been completed would the funds be designated for the repair of other streets in Eugene.

Bonds are to be repaid with property taxes, estimated at 61 cents for every \$1,000 of assessed value. This is estimated to cost the average Eugene homeowner \$102 each year over the five year maturation period: about \$510 in total.

An outside auditor will review how the proceeds are used as required by this measure and a report will be made available to the public.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-146

Independent police auditor and review board for complaints

Ballot Measure 20-146 involves making specific edits to the language in the Eugene's charter, section 15-A, which deals with the external examination of complaints against police employees.

The proposal would replace the words "is authorized to" and "may" with "shall."

The current wording suggests that the City Council may hire an independent police auditor, appoint a civilian review board and grant authority and duties. The proposed changes would require the City Council to hire an independent police auditor and appoint a civilian review board, both of which would be entrusted with certain authority and duties.

The current language also allows the City Council to reduce or remove the duties and authority of the police auditor or board, and eliminate those positions altogether.

It was filed on Aug. 28, 2008.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-147

Crow-Applegate-Lorane

#### School District 66

Measure 20-147 will determine if the Crow-Applegate-Lorane School District No. 66 will continue to tax \$1.50 per \$1,000 assessed for general operations beginning in 2010-11. If the measure is approved, it would allow School District No. 66 to maintain current programs and staffing levels at the three schools.

This measure could cause property taxes in Lane County to increase by more than three percent.

Without the continuation of this revenue, the district would be forced to decrease its budget by approximately \$220,000 every year for the school years of 2010-11 to 2014-15.

The maximum rate that any property in Lane County would be assessed for the measure is \$1.50.

With the current levy rates, most properties will be taxed less if the measure doesn't pass: an average of \$1.48 for all residential properties, \$1.45 for all commercial properties and \$1.10 for all industrial properties.

"The average rate for all types of property is estimated to be \$1.45 per \$1,000 of assessed value," the Sept. 9 copy of the measure states. "This measure is estimated to raise a total of \$1,119,447 in tax revenue."

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-148

#### Funding for Marcola School District

Lane and Linn County voters have been asked by Marcola School District to approve granting the district funds in the form of general obligation bonds not exceeding \$6.4 mil-

The measure asks the city to sell \$6.4 million in bonds.

Residents would pay an additional \$2.70 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, for up to 25 years. The owner of a home assessed at \$100,000 would pay additional \$270 per year for up to 25 years.

The money would be used to fund capitol construction and improvements to Marcola Elementary School facilities. Proposed improvements include new systems for heating, ventilation, plumbing and electrical.

Funds would also go towards updating classroom technology, libraries, cafeterias, gymnasiums as well as relocating all Marcola schools to one campus to reduce costs.

The bonds would mature in 25 years or less than the issue date.

#### **Ballot Measure** 20-149

Funding for the Fern Ridge Library

The Fern Ridge Library Dis-

trict will present Measure 20-149 on the November ballot that would determine the fate of library services.

Measure 20-149 proposes that the district would continue to levy 25 cents per \$1,000 assessed value for operational purposes for the next five years beginning July 1, 2009. This proposal may cause property taxes to increase by more than three percent, but would provide more financial backing for the library.

If the measure does pass the library's service hours would be reduced to 32 hours per week and the library's funding for book purchases would be reduced to 1,000 books per year. Periodicals and materials in the library's collection may be reduced, as well as programs for children and adults.

If voters pass the ballot measure, the library could offer services for 53 hours per week and be able to purchase 1,800 books per year. All periodicals and materials would stay the

The adult and children programs would stay the same, and homeowners would pay the levy amount described in the measure.

Measure 20-149 maps out a financial plan to provide an allocated amount of money over the span of the five years.

The total amount of assessments should be around \$838,880 over the span of five

## Lane Community College Bond Measure 20-142 is supported by the community!

### See who is endorsing the measure that will help keep Lane Community College Affordable and Accessible to all.

#### **Organizations:**

**Eugene Register Guard** 

**Eugene Chamber** of Commerce

Springfield Chamber of Commerce

**Democratic Party** of Lane County

Republican Party of Lane County

#### Individuals:

Peter DeFazio Kitty Piercy Jim Torrey Paul Holvey Vicki Walker Terry Beyer **Bill Morrissette** Floyd Prozanski Phil Barnhart Nancy Nathanson

Chris Edwards

Steve Candee

Mary Spilde Josh Canady **Brett Rowlett** Nancy Golden Steve McQuiddy Cathy Lindsley

Steve Robinson Susie Johnston Doug Harcleroad

Jim Salt Joan Aschim Joe Harwood Pat Albright

Pat Riggs Henson Jennifer Steele Jerry Henderson **Sharon Foster** 

Sonya Christian **Todd Lutz Tracy Simms** Ron Little

Matt Keating Tim Blood Laurie Swanson Gribskov **Kathy Thomas** Ken Murdoff

Melanie Brown Angela Peacor Denise Brinkman Cathy Starkey

**Jack Roberts** Al King **Bob Harris** 

**Bobby Lee** Carol and Bob Bills Robert Ackerman

Cheryl and John Crumbley Chris and Rosie Pryor Craig Ford

Amanda Croteau Craig Taylor Craig Smith **David Walton** Chris Berner Dean Kortge

Debbie Holden

Megan O'Leary

Jason Nowlin

Denise Jessup **Christopher Monnette** 

Diane Wiley Jeannette Crocker

Elmer and Dianne Thielman

Erik Jensen **Anne Marie Levis** Jerry and Susan Gill G. David Jewett

**Gerry Gaydos** Gloria Vanderhorst **Gretchen Pierce** Jason Anderson

Jean and Wayne Tate Edward "Sandy" Cutler Jerry Liudahl John Thomas

Kathie Tippens Wiper Kristan Dauble Julie Daniel

**Mandy Jones** 

Mary Beth and Don Bishoff Sarah Hendrickson, MD

Rick Varnum

Karen Gillette Mary Walston Maurie Denner Meri Justis

Mike and Fran Curtis

Mike and Leslie Hartwig Marshall Peter

**Tonya Watts** Munir Katul **Beverly Mayhew** Bill McCabe

Paul Smeed Misty Demanett Russell Dennick Philip and Linda Lynch

Priscilla Gould Laura Illig

Stephanie and Paul Riess Rob Zako

Rosaria Haugland Sherisa Aquirre Terrence and Anne Carter Jim Craft

For a current list of endorsements or more information, visit YesforLCC.com

Paid for by the Yes for Lane Community College PAC. 1186 West D, Springfield, OR 97477

#### THE TORCH

## State measure breakdowns

#### Measure 54

Amends Constitution: Standardizes voting eligibility for school board elections with other state and local elections.

This measure repeals section 6, Article VIII of the Oregon Constitution, so that Oregon's requirements for voting in school elections do not violate federal

There is no direct financial effect on state or local government expenditures or revenue.

#### Measure 55

Amends Constitution: Changes operative date of redistricting plans. It would allow affected legislators to finish term in original district.

This measure changes the date that the new redistricting plan becomes operative to the first day of the next regular legislative session that occurs after the plan is developed. Therefore, most members of the legislature could continue to represent the districts from which they were elected or appointed until the end of their terms. Some state Senators would have to be assigned to a new district for the final two years of their term of office.

There is no direct financial effect on state or local government expenditures or revenue.

#### Measure 56

Amends Constitution: Provides that May and November property tax elections are decided by majority of voters voting.

Partially repeals the Double Majority law requiring that 50 percent of registered voters cast ballots in an election for a bond measure to pass for May and November elections. Under the 50 percent voter-turnout requirement, often referred to as a "double majority" requirement, non-votes have the effect of a "no" vote if less than 50 percent of qualified voters participate in the elec-

This measure eliminates the voter turnout requirements for property tax elections held in May and November, but keeps the voter turnout requirement for elections held at any other time. As a result, for May and November elections, local property tax measures become law when approved by a majority of those

There is no direct financial effect on state or local government expenditures or revenue.

#### Measure 57

Increases sentences for drug trafficking, theft against elderly and specified repeat property and identity theft crimes. Requires addiction treatment for certain offenders.

The measure will cost \$9 million in the first year, and increase to more than \$143 million per year after the fourth year. These costs include costs of grants to local government. The state will borrow \$314 million from 2010-17 to build new prison space. The state will repay those amounts plus interest of \$203 million over 25 years.

The amounts of grants to local governments cannot be estimated.

Legislatively referred state statute that's

a less expensive alternative to Kevin Mannix's Ballot Measure 61.

#### Measure 58

Prohibits teaching public school students in language other than English for more than two years.

Bill Sizemore ballot measure that would require English immersion rather than English as a Second Language for children whose primary language is not

This measure will require additional school spending of approximately \$253 million in each of the first two years to provide additional teachers, instructional assistants, materials and additional programs.

The cost may change in later years. It would not affect the amount of funds collected for state government, schools or local governments.

#### Measure 59

Creates an unlimited deduction for federal income taxes on individual taxpayer's Oregon Income Tax Returns.

Under current law, in the tax year 2008, Oregonians who owe state taxes may deduct up to \$5,600 of their federal income tax liability on their state income tax return.

This Bill Sizemore ballot measure would make federal income taxes fully deductible on state and local returns.

This measure would reduce expected general fund resources by \$1.3 billion (nine percent) in the next two-year budget period, 2009-11. For the 2011-13 period, the projected revenue reduction would be 14 percent, \$2.4 billion of expected general fund resources.

About 500,000 Oregon taxpayers will be directly affected by this measure. The other 1.3 million would experience no change in their Oregon taxes.

#### Measure 60

"Classroom performance," not seniority, determines teachers' pay raises. The "most qualified" teachers are retained, regardless of seniority.

Bill Sizemore ballot measure that would mandate "merit-pay" for teachers in public schools. The Measure does not define "seniority," "classroom performance" or "successful teaching." Current law authorizes school districts reducing staff to retain teachers upon seniority as well as competence and

The combined state and local system would require approximately \$12 million of one-time costs in the first year and \$60 million in operating costs each

#### Measure 61

Creates mandatory minimum prison sentences for certain theft, identity theft, forgery, drug and burglary crimes.

Kevin Mannix ballot measure that sets mandatory minimum sentences for certain drug and property crimes and for identity theft, and directs the state to pay local governments for the cost of holding defendants in jail until they are

The measure will cost between \$8-10 million in the first year, and increase

to \$161-274 million per year after the fourth year. The state will borrow \$1.1-1.3 billion from 2010-17 to build new prisons. The state will repay those amounts plus interest of \$709-844 million over 25 years.

#### Measure 62

Amends Constitution: Allocates 15 percent of lottery proceeds to public safety fund for crime prevention, investigation and pros-

Kevin Mannix ballot measure that requires 15 percent of Oregon Lottery proceeds to be used for crime fighting/ prevention efforts.

Currently, the Oregon legislature is mandated to spend 44 percent of lottery funds on parks, bond payments and an educational reserve fund. The remaining 56 percent is spent on K-12 education, and state and local development programs. This measure would reduce funds available for these programs.

#### Measure 63

Exempts specified property owners from building permit requirements for improvements valued at or under \$35,000.

Bill Sizemore ballot measure that would allow building changes, less than \$35,000 (increased yearly for inflation), without a permit.

This would reduce local government revenue by \$4-\$8 million annually, The measure would also reduce local government spending by a similar amount because fewer inspections for minor improvements would be required.

Because of a state surcharge on permits, this measure would reduce state government revenues by \$450,000-750,000 per year.

#### Measure 64

Penalizes person/entity for using funds collected with "public resource" for "political purpose."

Bill Sizemore to ban public employee unions from using dues for political purposes.

This measure would require additional state government, schools or local government spending of less than \$100,000.

#### Measure 65

Changes General Election nomination processes for major/minor party, Independent candidates for most partisan offices.

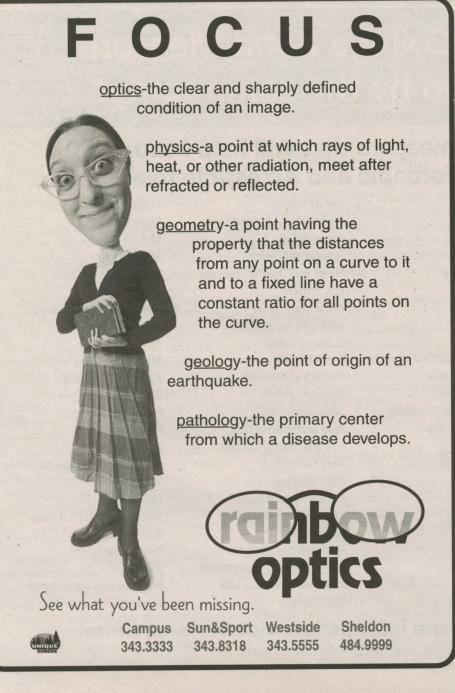
Creates an open primary in which all parties run their candidates on the same ballot and the top two vote getters, regardless of party affiliation, advance to the general election.

This measure would require one-time spending by both state and local government of approximately \$100,000 for computer programming changes.

It would also require approximately \$100,000 every two years in additional local government spending for primary election voter's pamphlet.

The measure would require approximately \$227,000 every two years in additional local government spending for primary ballot printing and postage.

This measure would not affect the amount of funds collected for state and local government.



## Meet the mayoral candidates **Kitty Piercy** Jim Torrey

Democrat http://www.kittypiercy.com



Photo courtesy of KITTY PIERCY FOR MAYOR

#### Experience

Kitty Piercy has served as the mayor of the City of Eugene since 2004.

#### Economy

In her first term as mayor, Piercy focused on promoting Eugene as an opportunity for environmentally-friendly companies and practices to set up shop. She has encouraged growth of green jobs in energy, fuel, alternative transportation and vehicles, "green" building, natural foods and products and recycling and reuse, because they are business sectors that are outpacing others throughout the nation in start-ups and new job opportunities.

Piercy, has proposed a 12-point agenda

to address the economy.

She said that "educational opportunities such as those at LCC are essential to prepare for successful employment." She also see that hosting national track events as well as another Olympic trials will help the economy of "Track Town USA.

#### Measure 20-142

Piercy strongly backs the passage of the bond measure. She said "20-142 is needed to provide resources to prepare students for the 21st-century job market." She acknowledges that LCC provides the city with well-trained police officers, fire fighters, nurses and other careers requiring technical training. Piercy feels the passage of this measure the young and for those who are changing careers.

#### Policing

Over the past four years, Piercy has added officers in each budget cycle, moving closer to the city's community policing goals. Piercy is working to rebuild trust in the Eugene police force after "some officers committed crimes a few years back," she said. She believes Eugene residents must strongly support the auditor and civilian review board in the work they do to assure a high level of accountability in police

A priority for Piercy is to work with regional partners on long-term solutions that enable Eugene to "adequately respond to property crimes such as metal theft and to stop the practice of premature matrixing out of offenders," Piercy

#### After-school programs

"Engaging young people in positive activities saves us public safety dollars, keeps our kids safe and gives them the opportunity for healthy activity and amazing learning experiences," Piercy said. Piercy believes that high quality after-school programs are a sound investment for taxpayers.

#### Health care

She advocates for adequate health care for all and is a long-time supporter lobbying at both the state and federal levels - of school-based clinics.

Piercy said that the city is not a direct provider of health care but works with partnerships like United Way on 100 Percent Access to health care.

"We work on low-income housing developments that help put roofs over people's heads and that keeps them healthier," Piercy said.

#### Environment

During her term in office, Piercy encouraged environmentally friendly business practices and economic stimulation with the Sustainable Business Initiative. The City of Eugene now has an office of sustainability and a Sustainability Commission. She awards the Bold Steps Award to businesses that have "good triple bottom line practices." City and community green house gas inventories were completed and Piercy intends to put a reduction plan into place next year.

#### Downtown

Piercy says that developments are underway in Eugene's downtown that will bring offices, retail and housing to fill the two pits, renovation of Center Court and a mixed use development across from the Eugene Public Li-

#### Transportation issues

Piercy feels that despite rising fuel costs there is a demand for public transit services. "We need to support Lane Transit District in their efforts to obtain funding at the state and federal level to keep our bus's rapid transit system growing instead of shrinking," Piercy

Piercy is not in favor of the proposed West Eugene Parkway project and her tie-breaking vote removed Eugene's support of the project.

### Independent

http://www.jimtorrey.com



Photo courtesy of JIM TORREY FOR MAYOR

#### Experience

Jim Torrey spent two previous terms as mayor of Eugene and has 10 years of collective service in elected offices.

#### Economy

Torrey is known for his investment in aiding private sector companies. He feels that the economy in Eugene will benefit from conducting consistent annual reviews of the building codes which are one of the main reasons he believes small businesses migrate to Springfield rather than Eugene. He believes that creating jobs with livable wages and benefits is especially important when there are layoffs and young people in the community looking for

#### Measure 20-142

"I'm absolutely 100 percent in favor of it," Torrey said. He has taken time to speak with employees in the local school districts, trying to convince them of the importance of this measure. Torrey believes that LCC reaches out to the students of these schools through offering career and vocational training.

#### Policing

A three-step program is part of Torrey's plans for policing Eugene. The first step would be to create a five-person patrol, four patrolmen and a sergeant, to cover the areas as far west as Hilyard Street and east to Adams Street and between 18th Avenue and the Willamette River from north to south. The second step would be to put in place a similar group to patrol parks and bike paths that are not included in the boundaries of step one. Step three is to put in place a rapid deployment group to watch over key criminal activities throughout the city, such as metal theft.

#### After-school programs

During his term as mayor of Eugene, Torrey initiated a program to bring after-school programs into Eugene schools. He feels those programs are even more important now. In a time when the economy is in a slump, Torrey says children will need more help after school as their parents, single parents especially, will be working more to support their families.

#### Health care

Torrey made the decision to leave the Republican Party to become an Independent largely because his former party has "lost touch with providing health care for children," he said. For the past five years Torrey worked with 100 Percent Access, through the United Way, to help provide those who are not eligible under the Oregon Medical Plan with free medical services. He supports school clinics in middle schools, high schools and colleges and believes that all students deserve and need access to affordable medical services. The City of Eugene is not a direct provider of health care.

#### Environment

Continuing the efforts of Mayor Piercy is one of Torrey's major goals concerning sustainability practices in Eugene. "We can't afford not to keep doing the things to make Eugene green," Torrey said. Another of his goals is to provide proof to critics of the impact of reducing the carbon footprint of Eugene residents, businesses and the community. Torrey also supports sustainability programs at LCC and acknowledges that they will lead to future job possibilities nation-wide.

#### Downtown

Two major plans are clear in Torrey's mind for the revitalization for downtown businesses. A project he calls 'Bright Lights on Broadway' would illuminate the trees on downtown streets from dusk to 2 a.m. This plan would include creating a "comfortable and safe" environment in Kesey Square through lighting, business partnership and renovations to the surrounding area. Torrey would also like to see businesses change their hours of operation to open at 11:30 a.m. and close around 10:30 p.m., to accommodate when he believes people can be and will be

#### Transportation issues

Torrey is a long-time supporter of the West Eugene Parkway project and stressing the need to repair potholes on Eugene streets. Torrey believes that the proposed West Eugene Parkway would make construction jobs available to local residents and would open up the possibility for businesses to build along the highway.

## Secretary of state race

The Secretary of state is the head of elections, audits and record keeping

• Supervises all state and local elections

· Audits accounts of all state boards, commissions and agencies

Keeps state records and registers corporations and trademarks

THE TORCH

Along with governor and treasurer, oversees management of state lands

Term: 4 years Salary: \$72,000



Photo courtesy of KATE BROWN



Photo courtesy of RICK DANCER



Photo courtesy of SETH WOOLLEY

### **Kate Brown**

Democrat http://katebrownfororegon.com

#### HOME AND FAMILY

Brown lives in Portland. She is married and has one stepson and one stepdaughter.

#### **EDUCATION**

Brown earned a bachelor's degree in environmental conservation and women's studies in 1981 from the University of Colorado. She received a law degree and certificate in environmental law in 1985 from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College in Portland. She participated in the Senior Executive Program, Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

#### **WORK HISTORY**

For 12 years, Brown worked as a lawyer in family and juvenile practice. She taught at Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University and worked with the Juvenile Rights Project.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE

Elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1991, she served two terms until she was elected to the Oregon State Senate in 1996. From 1998-2007, Brown served as the Oregon's Democratic leader, becoming the Senate Majority Leader when the Democrats gained a majority in 2004.

#### CONTACT

503-222-3366 2236 SE 10th Ave., Portland, Ore. 97214 kate@katebrownfororegon.com

#### Brown on the issues:

- · Supports campaign finance reform.
- Wrote the law that requires campaign cash be reported online, where the public can access information about ballot measure and candidate campaign
- Passed the law banning anyone convicted of fraud, forgery or identity theft from collecting ballot measure signatures.
- · Would support the creation of an advisory committee to help draw new legislative boundaries in 2011.
- Opposes Measure 65, stating they would weaken the ability of third-party candidates to get on the general ballot.
- Supported a bill that requires the ballots for three races in randomly selected precincts in each county be counted by hand for comparison to the machine

### **Rick Dancer**

Republican http://rickdancer.com

#### HOME AND FAMILY

Dancer lives in Springfield with his wife and two sons.

· Voted YES on banning partial

#### **EDUCATION**

Dancer received a bachelor's degree in communications in 1983 from Pacific University.

#### **WORK HISTORY**

Dancer worked at Eugene television station KEZI for 19 years. Prior to that, he worked at Eugene TV station KVAL, Coos Bay TV station KCBY and Coos Bay

#### PUBLIC SERVICE

Served as president of the City Club of Eugene. Volunteered with Looking Glass Youth and Family Services, Children's Miracle Network and Young Life Board.

#### CONTACT

541-606-0279 P.O. Box 71965, Eugene, Ore. 97401 contact@rickdancer.com

#### Dancer in the issues:

- · Would support the creation of an advisory committee to help draw new legislative boundaries in 2011.
- Supports Measure 65, on the November ballot, that would open primary elections to all voters and advance the top two vote receivers to the general
- · Supports a bipartisan commission for redistricting.

## **Seth Woolley**

**Pacific Green** http://seth4sos.org

#### HOME AND FAMILY

Woolley lives in Portland.

#### **EDUCATION**

Woolley attended Willamette University and studied computer science.

#### **WORK HISTORY**

Woolley is employed by deCarta, where he works as a senior software engineer for location-aware databases. He's also worked as a security auditor and consultant.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE

Woolley serves as secretary and officer of Pacific Green Party Local, is an elected member of the State Coordinating Committee and is the elections administrator and national delegate for Pacific Green Party.

#### CONTACT

503-953-3943 3403 NE Stanton St., Portland, Ore. 97212 seth@seth4sos.org

#### Woolley on the isuues:

- Supports same-day registration for the general elec-
- Calling for transparent redistricting.
- Opposes paid signature gathering for ballot measure
- Supports opening up auditing to the Internet.

### **EVENTS:**

Oct. 24, 12 p.m. - Secretary of State candidates' debate at the Downtown Athletic Club in Eugene.

Oct. 16. 4 p.m. - Brown and other Oregon Democrat candidates will speak at University of Oregon, Erb Memorial Union in the Alsea & Coquille Rooms.

## U.S. Senate race in Oregon

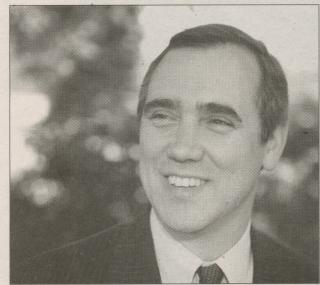


Photo courtesy of JEFF MERKLEY

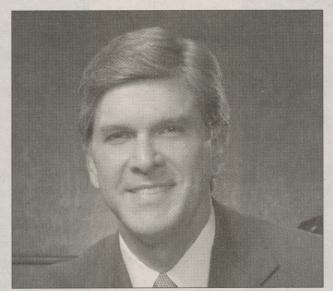


Photo courtesy of GORDON SMITH



Photo courtesy of DAVE BROWNLOW

**Constitution Party** 

## **Jeff Merkley**

#### **Democratic Party**

#### Abortion:

Merkley has received 100 percent ratings from both NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon and Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon for his work in the Oregon State Legislature.

- Led the fight to pass the Access to Birth Control Act. (2008)
- Public funding for stem cell research. (2007)
- Abortions should always be legally available.
   (1998)

#### Civil rights:

Merkley strongly supports marriage equality and supports a comprehensive Federal Hate Crimes bill to increase the criminal penalties for violent assaults against a person based upon their sexual orientation or gender identity.

- Okay to define marriage against polygamy or same-sex. (2008)
- Apply affirmative action to state hiring. (1998)

#### Crime:

"We can only expect law enforcement to effectively protect our communities if we give them the financial support they need. Instead of forcing our highly capable law enforcement officers to do more with less, our proposal will add 50,000 more police officers on America's streets to stem the tide of violent crime."

- More state troopers, more crime labs, more funding. (2008)
- Mandatory minimum sentence for some first-degree sex offenders. (2006)
- Opposes the death penalty. (1998)
- Increase rehabilitation and alternatives to incarceration. (1998)

#### Education:

- "A school's improvement should be measured not only by test scores, but also by students' improvement over time, attendance, graduation rates and other standards that states themselves determine."
- History of making efforts to improve education in Oregon. (2008)
- Completely overhaul No Child Left Behind. (2008)
- Fully fund public schools. (2008)
- Head Start Programs must be fully funded. (2008)
- Increase the size and number of Pell Grants available. (2008)
- Create a broad-based college tuition tax break. (2008)
- Let parents get involved in their child's education. (2008)
- Fully fund Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. (2008)

See Merkley, PAGE 14

## Gordon Smith

#### **Republican Party**

#### Abortion:

- Voted YES on prohibiting minors crossing state lines for abortion. (2008)
- Voted YES on expanding research to more embryonic stem cell lines. (2007)
- Voted YES on notifying parents of minors who get out-of-state abortions. (2006)
- Voted NO on \$100 million to reduce teen pregnancy by education and contraceptives. (2005)
- Voted YES on criminal penalty for harming unborn fetus during other crimes. (2004)
- Voted YES on banning partial birth abortions except for maternal life. (2003)
- Both pro-life and pro-stem cell research. (2001)
- Voted YES on maintaining ban on military base abortions. (2000)

#### Civil rights:

- "My campaign people will kill me for saying this, but ...
  part of what I fear as you start defining marriage we
  have a long history of doing that in this country, and my
  Mormon pioneer ancestors were the victims of that. I
  don't want that coming back."
- Provide benefits to domestic partners of federal employees. (2007)
- Voted YES on recommending constitutional ban on flag desecration. (2006)
- Voted YES on constitutional ban of same-sex marriage. (2006)
  Voted YES on adding sexual orientation to definition
- of hate crimes. (2002)

   Voted YES on loosening restrictions on cell phone
- wiretapping. (2001)

   Voted YES on expanding hate crimes to include sexual orientation. (2000)
- al orientation. (2000)
   Voted NO on setting aside 10 percent of highway funds for minorities and women. (1998)
- Voted YES on ending special funding for minority and women-owned business. (1997)

#### Crime:

- Supports use of federal death penalty. (2008)
- More funding and stricter sentencing for hate crimes. (2001)
- Require DNA testing for all federal executions. (2001)

#### Education:

- Increased critical funding for Head Start. (2008)
- Voted YES on additional \$10.2 billion for federal education and high school Head Start projects. (2007)
- Voted NO on \$52 million for "21st-century community learning centers." (2005)
- Voted NO on \$5 billion for grants to local educational agencies. (2005)
  Voted NO on shifting \$11 billion from corporate tax
- loopholes to education. (2005)

   Voted NO on funding smaller classes instead of pri-
- vate tutors. (2001)
  Voted NO on funding student testing instead of private tutors. (2001)

See Smith, PAGE 14

## **Dave Brownlow**

### Abortion:

"It would be hard to argue that all these years of pro-life compromise and appearement — or voting for the 'lesser' of two evils — has brought us any closer to ending legalized child-killing in America."

- Life begins at conception. (2008)
- Roe v. Wade is a usurpation of Constitutional authority. (2008)
- Abortion is a holocaust. (2008)

#### Civil rights:

- "If a particular church wants to break all the rules and make a mockery of the natural order of things, where men procreate with women, there is no need for us to get all shook up over it just as long as we aren't forced to sanction or subsidize their behavior."
- God intended for marriage to be between a man and a woman. (2008)
- First Amendment prohibits government from regulating marriage. (2008)
- Government should stay out of employment decisions. (2008)
- No special consideration for homosexuals. (2008)
- Let churches define marriage without government involvement. (2008)
- Separate marriage and state let churches marry who they want. (2008)

#### Crime:

- "The American prison industry has become such a shocking and morally reprehensible mess, it deserves far more attention than anyone is willing to give it."
- Apply Bible principle of "two witnesses" for death penalty. (2008)
- No mandatory sentencing laws we have too many incarcerated. (2008)
- Immoral prison industry creates an American Gulag. (2008)

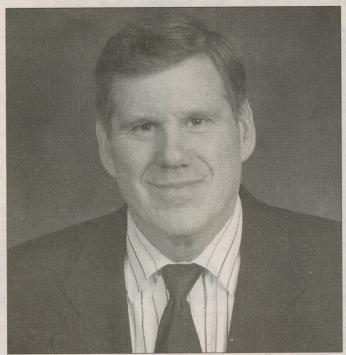
#### Education:

• Opposes vouchers because government would regulate them. (2008)

#### Health care:

- "The Oregon Health Plan will spend some \$14 billion over the next two years helping 350,000 Oregonians who do not have private health insurance. If the federal government [was kept out], there would be plenty of money left in our pockets so we could do an even better job taking care of our own."
- Enough federal funding for health coverage already. (2008)
- Congress has no Constitutional authority over health care. (2008)

See Brownlow, PAGE 14



THE TORCH

Photo courtesy of BEN WESTLUND

## **Ben Westlund**

http://www.westlundfortreasurer.com

#### Education

Ben Westlund received a bachelor's degree in education and history from Whitman College in 1972, and briefly attended the University of Oregon.

Westlund was the president of High Country Herefords from 1982 to present. Westlund served as the president of Westlund Development from 1992-96. He has served as the program director of Northwest Professional Management since 2003.

#### Public service

Westlund was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives in 1997. He was elected to the Oregon State Senate in 2002. He is still a state senator, while also serving on the board of the Oregon Cultural Trust, a public-private partnership designed to expand Oregon's economy through investment in the arts.

#### Westlund's goals if elected state treasurer:

"Westlund is proposing a comprehensive plan to promote renewable energy and conservation strategies for Oregon called the Cascade Initiative to reduce energy costs."

"He also supports increasing technical and vocational training so every stu-

dent graduates ready for college or a career."

"Westlund will continue the work begun by the current Oregon State Treasurer Randall Edwards, and other state treasurers, to discover hidden costs in Oregon's investments by calling on the Securities and Exchange Commission to require that publicly-traded companies disclose emerging risks they face from increasing energy costs."

"Westlund will expand financial literacy programs offered to students by the State Treasurer through partnerships with non-profit organizations and businesses including information on home buying, credit reports, credit cards, payday loans and sub-prime loans."

"He will also manage the Oregon Health Fund, passed by the 2007 Legislature as part of the Healthy Oregon Act, to help businesses and individuals lower health care costs by pooling their health care dollars to leverage their buying power and share their risks."

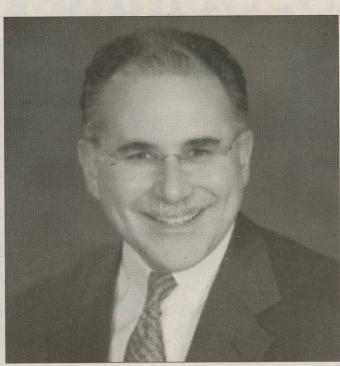


Photo courtesy of ALLEN ALLEY

## **Allen Alley**

http://www.friendsofallenalley.com

#### Education

Allen Alley attended Purdue University in Indiana, earning a bachelor's degree of science in mechanical engineering in 1976.

Alley co-founded Pixelworks and has served as president and chief executive officer from the company's inception until he resigned in December 2006. He is still chairman of the board.

#### Public service

Governor John Kitzhaber appointed Alley in 2002 as the chair of the inaugural Oregon Council for Knowledge and Economic Development. In 2002, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to a commission promoting sustainable economic growth in the United States and Japan. In 2006, Alley was named as the Chairman of the Oregon Business Plan. In January 2007, Alley was appointed by Governor Ted Kulongoski to serve as Deputy Chief of Staff for Energy, Transportation and Economic Development.

#### Alley's goals if elected as state treasurer:

"Ensuring the financial stability of retirement accounts, college savings plans and the school stability fund."

"Promoting economic development, particularly in the area of renewable energy and sustainable technology."

"Making post-secondary education an expectation for every Oregon child, whether it be a 4-year university or college, a 2-year associate's degree or training in an important trade."

"Conserving Oregon's natural beauty on its state lands, while recognizing that the rural economy relies on the prudent and sustainable management of our forests."

"Promoting homeownership for Oregonians who want a place they can truly call "home," but who need a little assistance - either with the initial down payment or with a restructured loan

### The Torch wants stories, art, photography and IDEAS!

Letters to the editor should be limited to 300 words. Commentaries should be no more than 750 words.

Please include the author's name, phone number and address for verification purposes only, not for publication. The editor in chief reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language.

ALL STUDENTS ARE WELCOME to submit stories. ideas, art or photography.

Stop in at Building 18, Room 218 or email torch@lanecc.edu.

## Presidential candidates

## Ralph Nader

#### Independent

For several elections, Ralph Nader has been sidelined by the heavyweight Democratic and Republican nominees, and he maligned by both parties for throwing a variable into the race. While Nader's attempts at the White House have proved unsuccessful, he has long been a staunch environmentalist and advocate for consumer rights.

Ralph Nader was born in Connecticut to Lebanese immigrants. He graduated in 1955 from the Woodrow Wilson School of International Affairs at Princeton University. He graduated Magna Cum Laude with a major in government and economics. In 1955, he enrolled in Harvard Law School, becoming an editor for the Harvard Law Review. His group of young, energetic lawyers (dubbed "Nader's Raiders") worked on exposes of industrial hazards, pollution, unsafe products, and neglect of government safety laws.

#### Civil rights:

- "We have the most impeachable President and Vice President in American history. We have torture; violation of civil rights and civil liberties; arrests of thousands of people without charges; imprisonment without attorneys; we have signing statements, which are a usurpation of the Constitutional authority ascribed to Congress."
- Ban desecration of the constitution, not flag desecration. (2008)
- Patriot Act associated with abuse of Muslim's civil rights. (2004)
- Supports equal gay rights, including civil union. (2000)
- Supports gay marriage. (2000)

#### Foreign policy:

- "The United States should be the world's humanitarian superpower. Our foreign policy must redefine the elements of global security, peace, arms control, an end to nuclear weapons and expand the many assets of our country to launch, with other nations, major initiatives against global infectious diseases."
- Supports Russia and Israel in moving to better governments. (2004)
- Selling arms is not a good way to conduct foreign affairs. (2000)

#### Health care:

- "All the candidates McCain, Obama and Clinton — are against single payer health insurance, full Medicare for all. I'm for it, as well as millions of Americans and 59 percent of physicians."
- Supports a 3.5 percent payroll tax to fund health care. (2004)
- Supports using Canadian system as a model for the United States (2000)
- Opposes assisted suicide laws for the terminally ill. (2000)

#### Energy:

- "It is time to break our addiction to fossil fuels. The evidence of global warming is mounting. We threaten the global environment with our continued use of fossil fuels. Not only is this an ecological threat, it is a tremendous economic threat, facing all of humanity."
- End subsidies of entrenched oil, coal and nuclear interests. (2004)
- Opposes drilling in the Artic National Wildlife Refuge. (2000)

### **Chuck Baldwin**

#### Constitution

Chuck Baldwin was born in Le Porte, Ind. in 1952. Baldwin enrolled at Liberty Bible Institute at Liberty College, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in theology. Baldwin has received two honorary doctorate degrees.

Baldwin is a founder and minister at the Crossroad Baptist Church in Pensacola, Fla. He is also a radio talk show host, author and newspaper columnist.

#### Civil rights:

- "You and I are constantly being watched, listened to, monitored, taped, and stalked by our own government. So, do any of us really believe that we still live in a free country? All this talk about a war on terrorism is a bunch of hooey. What is really happening is a war on freedom."
- Patriotism isn't love of government or Big Brother. (2008)
- American citizens should not be required to carry identification papers or be data-based by the federal government. (2008)

#### Foreign policy:

"We will stop this international meddling and empire building. When Chuck Baldwin is sworn in as President of these United States the 'New World Order' comes crashing down!"

• Opposes United States participation

- in the United Nations. (2008)
- Supports ending foreign aid. (2008)
- End foreign aid; end nation-building; end empire-building. (2008)
- The invasion and occupation of Iraq was absolutely unnecessary. (2008)
- Begin the process of safely extracting our troops from Iraq. (2008)

#### Health care:

- "I strongly support the freedom of choice for all citizens in their health care decisions and management! I strongly support the freedom of choice of practitioner and treatment!"
- Supports no forced vaccinations.
- Government regulation and subsidy constitutes a threat to both the quality and availability of patient-oriented health care and treatment. (2008)
- Supports proposals for employeecontrolled "family coverage" health insurance plans based on cash value life insurance principles. (2008)

#### Energy:

- "We must begin drilling for the domestic oil that we know exists; we must build more refineries and nuclear power plants."
- Supports drilling in Alaska. (2008)
- Supports more drilling, more refineries and more nuclear plants. (2008)
- There is also no reason that gas should cost more than \$1.50 per gallon. (2008)

### **Bob Barr**

#### Libertarian

From 1995 to 2003, Bob Barr served in the U. S. House of Representatives for Georgia. He now practices law with the Law Offices of Edwin Marger and runs a consulting firm, Liberty Strategies LLC.

Barr was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to serve as the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia in 1986-90, and served as President of Southeastern Legal Foundation from 1990-91. He worked with the CIA from 1971-78.

#### Civil rights:

- "Government should make no law that discriminates based on race, religion, sexuality or any other personal characteristic."
- Criticizes efforts to restrict rights of homosexuals. (2008)
- Applying habeas corpus in Guantanamo reaffirms fundamental liberty. (2008)
- Authored Defense of Marriage Act. (2008)
- Voted YES on banning gay adoptions in Washington, D.C. (1999)
- Voted YES on ending preferential treatment by race in college admissions. (1998)

#### Foreign policy:

"American foreign policy should emphasize swift, decisive and winning action against those who vowed would harm us. This means defense, not foreign intervention."

- Neocon aggression opens can of worms: others will do same. (2003)
- Voted NO on keeping Cuba travel ban until political prisoners released. (2001)
- Voted NO on \$156 million to International Monetary Fund for thirdworld debt reduction. (2000)
- Voted NO on Permanent Normal Trade Relations with China. (2000)
- Voted NO on \$15.2 billion for foreign operations. (1999)

#### Health care:

- "Our health care policy should be reformed based on the principle of consumer-oriented health care."
- Voted YES on subsidizing private insurance for Medicare prescription drug coverage. (2000)
- Voted YES on banning physicianassisted suicide. (1999)
- Voted YES on establishing taxexempt Medical Savings Accounts. (1999)
- Collect data on birth defects and present to the public. (1998)

#### Energy:

- "The free market, driven by consumer choice and reflecting the real cost of resources, should be the foundation of America's energy policy."
- Voted NO on prohibiting oil drilling and development in Alaska National Wildlife Refuge. (2001)
- Repeal the gas tax. (2001)
- Voted NO on starting implementation of Kyoto Protocol. (2000)

## **Cynthia McKinney**

#### **Green Party**

Cynthia McKinney earned a Bachelor of Arts in international relations from the University of Southern California in 1978 and a Master of Arts in law and diplomacy from Tufts University.

Since being elected in 1992 as the first African-American Congresswoman from Georgia, she has sat on both the Armed Services Committee and the Budget Committee, and throughout her six terms in Congress has been a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Progressive Caucus. She has worked closely with the Hispanic Caucus and the newly formed Tri-Caucus.

#### Civil rights:

- "We need repeal of the Patriot Acts, the Secret Evidence Act, the Military Commissions Act, and other legislation that rolls back bedrock civil liberties."
- Keep affirmative action in college admissions. (2008)
- Supports gay adoptions. (2008)
- Voted NO on making the Patriot Act permanent. (2005)
- Supports reparations for slavery.(2001)Constitutional Amendment for equal
- rights by gender. (2001)

#### Foreign policy:

"The United States ought to be an honest broker. Now we are definitely not an honest broker in the affairs of the Middle East. We've got to stop our weapons transfers to countries over there — all of them."

- Make United States a partner for peace in global community. (2008)
- Pressure government to refrain from interference in Africa. (2008)
- Voted NO on deterring foreign arms transfers to China. (2005)
- Voted NO on reforming the United Nations by restricting United States funding. (2005)

#### Health care:

- "In Congress, I was a co-sponsor of every bill to create a national system for universal access to health care under a single payer model."
- Supports single-payer universal health care. (2008)
- Take insurance companies out of health-care equation. (2008)
- Affordable health care is a matter of national security. (2007)
  Voted NO on denying non-emergen-
- Voted NO on denying non-emergency treatment for lack of Medicare copay. (2006)

#### Energy:

- "For 30 years, opponents of American energy have cloaked their arguments in an environmental apocalypse. They have tried to make the argument that no matter what we do, it will destroy the environment."
- Declare United States carbon-free and nuclear-free. (2008)
- Leave the oil in the soil. (2008)
- Voted YES on keeping moratorium on drilling for oil offshore. (2006)
- Voted NO on authorizing construction of new oil refineries. (2005)

## Presidential candidate **Barack Obama**

THE TORCH

#### **Democrat**

Barack Hussein Obama II was born Aug. 4, 1961 to a Kenyan father and American mother. He is the junior senator from Illinois and the first black Democratic presidential nominee.

Obama graduated from Columbia University and Harvard Law School, where he served as president of the Harvard Law Review. Obama worked as a community organizer and civil rights attorney before serving in the Illinois Senate from 1997 through 2004. He taught constitutional law at the University of Chicago Law School from 1992 through 2004. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in March, 2004 and in July of that year delivered the keynote address at the Democratic National Convention.

Obama is the author of two books: "Dreams from my Father" and the "Audacity of Hope."

#### Abortion:

"I think it's very hard to know what that means, when life begins. Is it when a cell separates? Is it when the soul stirs? So, I don't presume to know the answer to that question."

· Supports Roe v. Wade. (1998)

• Teach teens about abstinence and also about contraception.

· Voted NO on prohibiting minors crossing state lines for abortion. (2008)

· Voted YES on expanding research to more embryonic stem cell lines. (2007)

#### Foreign policy:

"Strong countries and strong presidents meet and talk with our adversaries. We shouldn't be afraid to do so. We've tried the other way. It didn't work."

· President must abide by international human rights treaties. (2007)

#### Budget and economy:

"I understand your frustration and your cynicism. Most of the people here, you've got a family budget. If less money is coming in, you end up making cuts. Maybe you don't go out to dinner as much. Maybe you put off buying a new car. That's not what happens in Washington. And you're right. There is a lot of blame to go around."

· Voted against limiting credit to 30 percent, because 30 percent too high. (2008)

· Voted NO on paying down

federal debt by rating programs' effectiveness. (2007)

 Voted NO on \$40 billion in reduced federal overall spend-

· Get minorities into home ownership and global marketplace. (2001)

· Require full disclosure about sub-prime mortgages. (2007)

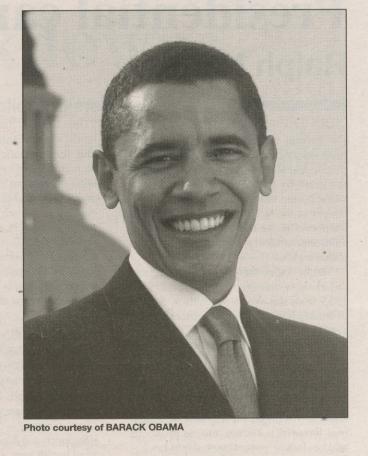
#### Alternative energy:

"I start off with the premise that nuclear energy is not optimal. I am not a nuclear energy proponent ... There is no perfect energy source. Everything has some problems right now. We haven't found it yet. Now I trust in our ingenuity."

• \$150 billion for electric car batteries & new technology. (2008)

#### Health care:

"In a country as wealthy as ours, for us to have people who are going bankrupt because they can't pay their medical bills - for my mother to die of cancer at the age of 53 and have to spend the last months of her life in the hospital room arguing with insurance companies because they're saying that this may be a pre-existing condition ... there's something



fundamentally wrong about that."

 Voted for subsidies to people who couldn't afford care, not in favor of single-payer health coverage. (2008)

· Allows senior to bulk-purchase medication. (2004)

· Got tested for AIDS with wife in public in Kenya. (2007)

· Allows prescription drug reimportation. (2004)

· No exclusions for pre-existing conditions. (2008)

#### Education:

"I'll invest in early childhood ducation. I'll recruit an army of new teachers, pay them higher salaries and give them more support. In exchange, I'll ask for higher standards and more accountability."
• Voted YES on \$52 million

for 21st- century community learning centers. (2005)

· Voted YES on \$5 billion for grants to local educational agencies. (2005)

## Vice Presidential candidate

### Joe Biden

#### **Democrat**

Being Senator of Delaware for nearly 36 years, Joe Biden has the longest career in Congress of any of the contenders in the presidential race including John McCain, who has been Senator of Arizona for only

He attended the University of Delaware and earned Bachelor of Arts degree, double majoring in history and political science in

A few weeks after winning the senatorial election, his wife and one-year-old daughter were killed in a car crash. His two sons were injured but made full recoveries. This event almost persuaded Biden to end his political career, but was convinced to remain in the Senate.

He was sworn in at his son's bedside at the hospital. He was 29 when elected and 30 when sworn in, the minimum age required to become a U.S. Senator. He was the fifth youngest senator to be elected in U.S. history.

Biden sought the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988 and again in 2008. His 1988 campaign ended quickly, after it came out that he was accused of plagiarism in college. In his tenure as Senator, Biden has voted almost completely on the liberal side of issues in social, economic and military fields.

#### Abortion:

opposed to abortion, but I don't think I have a right to impose my view on the rest of society."

· Voted NO on prohibiting minors cross-

"My position is that I am personally

ing state lines for abortion. (2008) Voted NO on defining unborn child as eligible for State Children's Health Insurance Program. (2008)

 Voted YES on \$100 million to reduce teen pregnancy by education and contraceptives. (2005)

· Voted NO on criminal penalty for harming unborn fetuses during other crime. (2004)

#### **Budget and Economy:**

"Just by eliminating the war and eliminating the \$200 billion in tax cuts that goes to the top one percent, if you add it all up, that would allow me to do everything I wanted to do ... my priorities on education, health care and the environment ... and still bring down the deficit by \$150 billion.'

 Believes deregulation got America into housing crisis. (2008)

· Invested in new programs by ending war and eliminating tax cuts. (2007) Voted NO on prioritizing national debt

reduction below tax cuts. (2000) · Voted YES on balanced-budget constitutional amendment. (1997)

#### Civil Rights:

"I think government should not be able to dictate to religions the definition of marriage, but on the civil side, government has the obligation to strip away every vestige of discrimination as to what individuals are able to do in terms of personal conduct."

· No on gay marriage; yes on equal treatment. (2008)

· Voted NO on Constitutional ban of same-sex marriage. (2006)

· Voted NO on recommending Constitutional ban on flag desecration. (2006)

· Voted YES on adding sexual orientation to definition of hate crimes. (2002)

 Voted YES on loosening restrictions on cell phone wiretapping. (2001)

#### Education:

"Got to start kids in school earlier, got to put them in smaller classes. In order to do that you need 100,000 more teachers, but you've got to pay teachers. The pay's not competitive, and lastly you've got to provide access to college, and that costs money. And we can easily pay for it. It's about our priorities."

· Believes in teaching sex education in schools; including prevention methods.

· Believes that there needs to be more performance-based pay for teachers (2007)

• \$3,000 tax credit for college for anyone earning under \$150,000. (2007)

· Laid out \$30 billion plan over five years for education. (2007)

 Voted YES on \$5 billion for grants to local educational agencies. (2005)

#### Energy and Oil:

"We have three percent of the world's oil reserves. We consume 25 percent of the oil. John [McCain] has voted 20 times in the last decade and a half against funding alternative energy sources ... Obama believes by investing in clean coal and safe nuclear, we can not only create jobs in wind and solar here, we can export it."

· Voted YES on tax incentives for energy production and conservation. (2008) · Voted YES on factoring global warming into federal project planning.

· Voted YES on banning drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.



Photo courtesy of JOE BIDEN

· Voted YES on reducing oil usage by 40 percent by 2025 instead of five percent. (2005)

#### Foreign Policy:

"Our country is less secure and more isolated than it has been any time it has in recent history."

· Believes that talks with enemies without pre-conditions are necessary.

· Believes biggest threat to the U.S. is from North Korea, Iran and Russia.

· Voted NO on cap foreign aid at only \$12.7 billion. (1999)

#### Health Care:

"You know, an ounce of prevention worth a pound of cure is real. We virtually do not have anything that rewards those people who are engaged in their physician's or insurer's companies that emphasize prevention."

· Wants to start paying for universal coverage with \$100 billion in redundancy. (2007)

 Voted YES on allowing patients to sue HMOs and collect punitive damages.

## Presidential candidate John McCain

#### Republican

John McCain was born Aug. 29, 1936, at Coco Solo Naval Air Station in the Panama Canal Zone. At the time of his birth, the McCain family was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone, under American control.

McCain graduated fifth from the bottom of his class from the Naval Academy at Annapolis in 1958, and graduated from flight school in 1960.

At the outbreak of the Vietnam War, McCain followed in his father's footsteps and volunteered for combat duty. On Oct. 26, 1967, during his 23 air mission, McCain's plane was shot down during a bombing run over Hanoi, the North Vietnamese capital. He broke both arms and one leg, and was taken as a prisoner of war at the Hoa Loa prison on Dec. 9, 1969. While a P.O.W., he was physically tortured and kept in solitary confinement. He was released in 1973. In 1976, Mc-Cain was assigned as the Navy's liaison to the U.S. Senate.

He was first elected to political office on Nov. 2, 1982, winning a seat on the House of Representatives. In 1986, he was elected to the U.S. Senate.

From 1987 to 1989, McCain underwent a federal investigation as a member of the "Keating Five," a group of senators accused of improperly intervening with federal regulators on behalf of Charles Keating, a bank chairman who spearheaded one of the biggest failures in the savings and loan disaster of the late 1980s. McCain was cleared of the charges, but investigators declared he had shown "poor judgment."

#### Foreign policy:

"I hate war. It's terrible beyond imagination. I'm running for president to keep the country I love safe and prevent other families from risking their loved ones in war as my family has. I will draw on my experience with the world and its leaders, and all the tools at our disposal ... to build the foundations for a stable and enduring peace."

Voted against redeploying troops out of Iraq in nine months. (2008)

· Voted to support the conclusion of the United States. mission in Iraq. (2007)

• Voted YES to spend \$86 billion for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. (2003)

· Voted YES to authorize using military force against Iraq. · Voted YES on \$17.9 bilAbortion:

fund. (1998)

"All of us would like not to have the issue of abortion in the public arena, but taxpayers' dollars are being used to take a human life. That's why we can't get it out of the public arena."

lion to International monetary

· Voted to make parental notification of minors who are attempting to get abortions outside state lines mandatory. (2006)

 Voted YES on banning partial birth abortions except when a woman's life is in danger. (2003)

#### Alternative energy:

"We can work on nuclear power plants ... We have to have all of the above, alternative fuels, wind, tide, solar, natural gas, clean coal technology. All of these things we can do as Americans and we can take on this mission and we can overcome it."

·Voted YES on targeting 100,000 hydrogen-powered vehicles by 2010. (2003)

#### Health care:

"I think [health care] is a responsibility ... in that we should have available and affordable health care to every American citizen, to every family member." · Voted for a tax credit for citi-

zens without employee health insurance. His health plan includes a tax credit of approximately \$2,500 for every person, or \$5,000 for families to help cover the cost of health insurance. (2002)

#### **Education:**

"Education is the civil rights issue of this century. Equal access to public education has been gained. But what is the value of access to a failing school? We need to shake up failed school bureaucracies with competition, empower parents with choice."

•Directed \$750 million to build virtual schools. (2008)

•Did not approve shifting \$11 billion from corporate tax loopholes to education spending. (2005)

· Approved spending \$75 million on abstinence education.

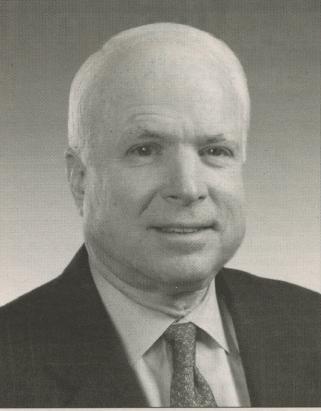


Photo courtesy of JOHM MCCAIN

## Vice Presidential candidate

## Sarah Palin

#### Republican

Sarah Palin was elected Governor of Alaska in 2006. Less than two years later, she was appointed as John McCain's run-

She is a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association and has a passion for hunting, so much in fact she is known to hunt as much as she can, and keeps a freezer full of wild game.

She relates herself to middle-class working Americans, and refers to herself as a "hockey mom."

Some critics find it hard to believe she is ready to be vice president, let alone President of the United States, if it ever should come to that. Palin agrees, stating that she may not have a "big fat resumé" to apply for the second-highest political office in

#### Abortion:

- "I'll do all I can to see every baby is created with a future and potential.
- Opposes stem-cell research. (2008)
- Pro-life. (2006)
- · Choose life, even if a woman is raped.
- · Only exception for abortion is if the mother's life would end. (2006)

#### Budget and economy:

- "A good barometer is go to a kid's soccer game and turn to a parent and ask, 'how are you feeling about the economy?' You're going to hear fear.'
- · Believes predatory lenders got the United States into housing crisis.
- The United States should not reward

poor financial decisions. (2008)

- \$7 billion savings plan for education and transportation. (2007)
- Firm believer in free-market capitalism. (2006)

#### Civil rights:

- "I do not support defining marriage as anything but between one man and one woman ... I'm being as straight up with Americans as I can in my non-support for anything but a traditional definition of marriage.
- · Non-supporter of anything but traditional marriage. (2008)
- · Feminist, equal rights for women. (2008)
- · Vetoed denying benefits to gays as unconstitutional. (2008)
- Value cultural diversity. (2006)

#### Crime:

- "We must continue to meet the needs of law enforcement and the judicial system to keep our citizens safe.'
- Establish "FBI Day" to support global crime fighting. (2008)
- Register sex offenders and investigate Internet sex crimes. (2008) · If legislature passed death penalty law,
- she would sign it. (2006) · No special hate-crime laws; all hei-
- nous crime is hate-based. (2006)

#### Drugs:

Third highest priority in relationship to families: "Cracking down on the things that harm family life: gangs, drug use and infringement of our liberties."

 Opposes legalizing marijuana, but sees meth as a greater threat. (2006)

· Smoked marijuana when it was legal under Alaskan law. (2006)

#### Education:

- "Parents should have the ultimate control over what their children are
- •Believes in teaching creationism alongside evolution in schools. (2008)
- · Committed to providing strong education, including moral education. (2008)

#### Energy and oil:

- "We need to develop secure domestic sources of conventional energy, such as oil and natural gas, while also researching and developing alternative and renewable energy.'
- · Believes the United States should first and foremost become energy independent. (2008)
- · Supports stopping carbon emissions. (2008)

#### Foreign policy:

- "With some of these dictators who hate America and what we stand for ... cannot be met with just sitting down on a presidential level as Barack Obama had said he would be willing to do. That is beyond bad judgment. That is dangerous."
- Two-state solution for Israel/Palestine is top priority. (2008)
- · Does not support the prospects of another Cold War with Russia. (2008) · Visiting injured soldiers in Germany
- Health care: "I am proud that so many residents rec-

was the trip of a lifetime. (2008)



**Photo courtesy of SARAH PALIN** 

ognize the life-giving benefits of organ and tissue donation. Their willingness to donate demonstrates the selfless and generous nature of Alaskans."

- \$5,000 tax credit for families to buy their own coverage. (2008)
- Signed up as organ donor. (2008)
- · Believes health care must be market and business driven. (2008)

#### Principles and values:

- Shares McCain's worldview of the United States as the shining city on the hill. (2008)
- Gets a lump in her throat when she hears the National Anthem. (2008)
- · Wants to declare National Day of Prayer in Alaska. (2008)

#### War and peace:

"Retreat is not an option. Retreat is defeat in Iraq ... If we were to lose there, we're not going to be any better off when we fight in Afghanistan either, nor the areas where terrorist cells are growing across our world."

· No white flag of surrender in Iraq.

• Enforce no-fly zone in Darfur. (2008)

### From PAGE 9 **MERKLEY**

#### Health care:

"Provide children with the health care they need: healthy children learn better. Every American child deserves health care. Healthy children miss less school days and learn better overall."

• Address the nursing shortage. (2008)

· Support Healthy Americans Act: universal, comprehensive care. (2008)

· Take on insurance & pharmaceutical companies. (2008)

· Provide affordable quality health care to all Americans. (2008)

• Fully fund the VA health care system. (2008)

· Provide children with the health care they need.

• Health care for all Americans. (2008)

#### Homeland security:

"There is no greater obligation than for the government that owes its existence to the veterans' sacrifice to support and care for them when they return from the battlefield."

 Honor America's veterans and take good care of them. (2008)

• Extend full VA and other benefits to National Guard members. (2008)

· A tragic shortfall in recent years in veterans' health care. (2008)

· Allow disabled veterans to collect their full retirement pay. (2008)

· Increase funding for mental health services to veterans. (2008)

Expand educational opportunities for veterans.

• Create a GI Bill for the 21st century. (2008)

#### **SMITH**

 Voted NO on spending \$448 billion of tax cut on education & debt reduction. (2001)

· Focus educational resources to help those with greatest need. (2001)

· Voted YES on allowing more flexibility in federal school rules. (1999)

Voted YES on education savings accounts. (1998)

#### Health care:

· Include mental health services under Medicare. (2008)

· Voted NO on allowing tribal Indians to opt out of federal healthcare. (2008)

· Voted YES on limiting medical liability lawsuits to \$250,000. (2006)

 Voted NO on increasing Medicaid rebate for producing generics. (2005)

 Voted NO on negotiating bulk purchases for Medicare prescription drug. (2005)

• Tax credits for those without employee health insurance. (2002) Voted YES on allowing patients to sue HMOs and col-

lect punitive damages. (2001) • Invest funds to alleviate the nursing shortage. (2001)

· Voted NO on including prescription drugs under Medicare. (2000)

#### Homeland security:

• Voted YES on cutting \$221 million in benefits to Filipinos who served in WWII U.S. Army. (2008)

· Voted YES on removing need for warrant for wiretapping abroad. (2007)

 Voted YES on limiting soldiers' deployment to 12 months. (2007)

• Voted YES on implementing the 9/11 Commission re-

 Voted YES on preserving habeas corpus for Guantanamo detainees. (2006)

 Voted NO on requiring CIA reports on detainees and interrogation methods. (2006)

#### **BROWNLOW**

High health care costs are symptom of federal meddling. (2008)

#### Homeland security:

"They concocted the 'war on terror' as an elaborate deception to hide the great harm they have inflicted on our Republic - and to keep the American people in fearful, humble, servitude to those who rule this sinking ship.'

• We spend \$1 trillion per year to defend our empire. (2008)

• The Patriot Act is an atrocious piece of legislation. (2008)

• We spend more money on military than rest of world combined. (2008)

· Real threat is elaborate deception concocting war on terror. (2008)

• 9/11 investigation needed for mysterious collapse of WTC7. (2008)

· Do you feel safer with feds snooping around your affairs? (2008)

"Shall the Charter be amended to require Council to hire Independent Police Auditor, appoint Review Board, and grant authority and duties?"

Let's lock in independent oversight of complaints involving police.

Measure

ENDORSED BY THE REGISTER GUARD AND EUGENE WEEKLY

For more information and a complete list of endorsers: www.veson20-146.org

## Popcorn and politics at the library

### Eugene Public Library hosts political film series during October

By BENNETT MOHLER Arts Editor

In the spirit of the election season, the Eugene Public Library is hosting a free political film series at its downtown branch. The series features one film per week every Sunday at 3 p.m. through the month of October

"They're all about elections and various experiences that people have through the election process," Greg Rodriguez, adult services librarian, who runs the series, said. "Overall I thought it would be an interesting topic ... very timely."

The library has hosted film series nearly every year since 2004. These were originally handled by Adult Services Librarian Lorie Vik. The first film series was on the topic of human rights and featured six films shown bi-monthly from January-March 2004.

"We tried to make it an annual thing. I don't know that we've done one a year since we've started, but we've done a few," Vik said.

The first film series got off the ground because of a grant the library received. "That was successful and the public that came and attended that gave us feedback that they'd like to see more," Vik said.

The next film series dealt with immigration and was held in October 2006. Now the theme is the election process.

"Both Lorie and I got together and we were just shooting out

various topics that we could cover and we figured politics would be perfect this time of the year," Rodriguez remarked. "Once we decided on politics then it was just a matter of getting the films together."

The first two films that were shown were "Election Day" by Katy Chevigny on Oct. 5 and "Campaign" by Kazuhiro Soda on Oct. 12.

The remaining two films for the month will be "My Country, My Country" by Laura Poitras on Oct. 19 and "The Fall of Fujimori" by Ellen Perry on Oct. 26.

Rodriguez plans to continue this film series every year at the downtown library. For now, he hopes to gain some positive response for this year's series.

"I hope people come by. Any feedback is always appreciated," Rodriguez said.

The last film in the series will be shown on Sunday, Oct. 26. Every showing is free.

"There's free popcorn, too," Rodriguez said.

## **2008 General Election**

Deadline to receive ballots: Nov. 4 at 8 p.m.

Drop boxes will be open Friday, Oct 17 to Nov. 4.
Drive-by ballot drop boxes can be accessed 24 hours per day until Nov. 4 at 8 p.m.

## DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box LANE COUNTY ELECTIONS

275 W. 10th Ave., Eugene Office staffed 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day 541-682-4234

#### LANE COUNTY ANNEX

White receptacle drop box in front of Lane County Annex 135 E. 6th Ave., Eugene

#### DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box East Side of Pearl Street in Eugene

Between 7th and 8th Avenue Between City Hall and County Public Service Building

#### DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box Parking Lot Behind State of Oregon Building

Right off Pearl Street – Enter driveway directly behind State of Oregon building 165 E. 7th Ave., Eugene

## DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box AMAZON POOL

On island off Hilyard Street, turning into Amazon Pool parking 2600 Hilyard St., Eugene

#### DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box CITY OF EUGENE BETHEL LIBRARY

Echo Hollow Plaza Far right drive-through 1990 Echo Hollow Rd., Eugene

DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box

## LIVELY PARK SWIM CENTER

Just past front of building, on left of driveway 6100 Thurston Rd., Springfield

## DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

Enter off A Street, drop box located at

North end of covered parking lot. Between 5th and 6th Street, Springfield

## DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER

In front of the center entrance - West side 2727 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Eugene

DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box
CITY OF
FLORENCE
POLICE DEPT.

In front of Police Department 900 Greenwood St., Florence

## DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE In front of the Community

Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave., Cottage Grove

DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box CITY OF EUGENE SHELDON

#### LIBRARY

Sheldon Plaza next to Rite Aid 1566 Coburg Rd., Eugene

## DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box WEST 11TH WAL-MART

North end of Wal-Mart parking lot 4550 W. 11th Ave., Eugene

#### DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box LANE

PUBLIC WORKS In front of Public Works Administration building across from

COUNTY

Home Depot 3040 N. Delta Hwy, Eugene

DRIVE-BY
Ballot Drop
Box
JUNCTION
CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
In parking
lot north of

library 726 Greenwood St., Junction City

#### DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box RIVER ROAD PARK AND RECREATION CENTER

On South Island off Lake
Drive, turning into River
Road Park and Recreation
Center parking lot
1400 Lake Dr., Eugene

## DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box CITY OF VENETA

Parking lot in front of City Hall 88184 8th St., Veneta

## DRIVE-BY Ballot Drop Box CITY OF CRESWELL

West on Oregon Ave. in front of Creswell Library 64 W. Oregon Ave., Creswell

#### UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

White receptacle drop box ERB Memorial Union, East wing, lower level, outside

#### CITY OF LOWELL CITY HALL

107 E. 3rd Street, Lowell 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to noon and 1-8 p.m. on Election Day

#### CITY OF COBURG RECORDER'S OFFICE

91069 N. Willamette, Coburg 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to noon and 1-8 p.m. on Election Day

#### VIDA COMMUNITY MARKET

45602 McKenzie Hwy, Vida 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Sunday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day

#### CITY OF OAKRIDGE CITY RECORDER'S OFFICE

48318 E. 1st, Oakridge 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to noon and 1-8 p.m. on Election Day

# Sports Titans meet midseason difficulties

### LCC women's soccer team battles for top position in league

By TARYN ACKELSON Sports Editor

Disappointing results for the women's soccer team led to a league record of 5-3-6 after a shutout versus the Warriors of Walla Walla Commu-

On Friday, Oct. 10, the 0-3 loss was suffered on the road in Walla Walla, Wash. when the Titans took on the Warriors, No. 1 in the East region of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges. The NWAACC records did not reflect that LCC had caused the first goal and gave WWCC its first point.

"We knew going into it we were going to be against a very good team," Head Soccer Coach Dean Smith said. "There was a 3-0 score but things actually went well. In terms of speed of play and skill we actually did match them fairly well. It was a more even match the second half.'

Brianne Lagumina, Titan defender, was penalized with a yellow card. The first time the team faced off with WWCC it was defeated 1-3.

Braving icy-cold and windy conditions the Titans turned it around on Saturday, Oct. 11, with a 3-1 victory in Ontario, Ore. against the Chuckars of Treasure Valley Community Col-

Sabel Maguire, Titan defender, scored the first goal three minutes into the game. Midfielder Jamie Addington secured the other two goals for

'It was an indication of how that Walla Walla game did kind of give us a real good energy boost," Smith

Redeeming the 0-3 shutout from the Titan's first encounter with TVCC on Sept. 5, the team is now even with the Chuckars, with one win and one

The LCC team arrived with little time to warm up due to miscommunication that Ontario is in the Mountain

With just six games left before the postseason begins, the LCC women's soccer team clenches the No. 2 position, behind Clackamas Community College. CCC was last year's champions in the South region of the NWAACC.

The Titans will be playing at home against Southwestern Oregon Community College on Friday, Oct. 17, at 3:30 p.m. and against Chemeketa Community College on Oct. 18



LCC Women's Soccer Assistant Coach Kori Wilgus and Head Coach Dean Smith prepare the Titans for practice in early October. Photo by ISAAC VIEL/The Torch

## **Bikes and bailouts**

#### Employer tax cuts for offering cyclists benefits

By TARYN ACKELSON Sports Editor

On Friday, Oct. 3, the Bicycle Commuter Act was passed as an attachment to the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of

The Bicycle Commuter Act will provide companies with tax breaks of \$20 for each employee who is offered fringe benefits for commuting to work on a bicycle. This includes the cost of reimbursements to employees for purchasing, improving or repairing a bicycle, bike parking fees and shower facilities.

The total cost estimate for the provision is \$1 million each year, compared to the \$4.4 million spent annually for the cost of tax breaks connected to parking and public transportation benefits.

The act originally requested \$80 per month, rather than the \$115 given for public transit and \$210 for automobile parking benefits. A compromise was made for \$20 per month to allow the provision to move forward.

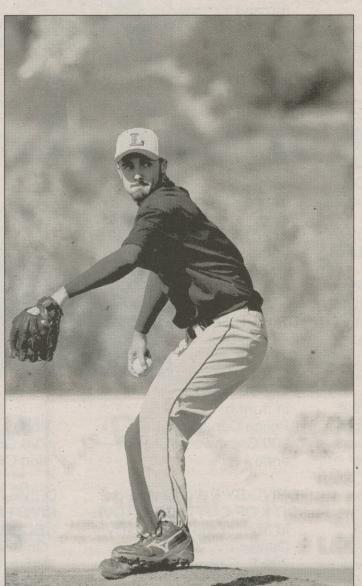
The Bicycle Commuter Act was part of the larger Renewable Energy Tax Credit Initiative. According to the League of American Bicyclists, "the Senate strategically attached a number of provisions to the Financial Rescue Package to ensure their passage before recess." Also passed were the Alternative Minimum Tax Credit Initiatives, natural disaster relief, an extension of expiring tax cuts for businesses and families, and parity for mental-health

Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) and Senator Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) are responsible for placing this issue up for vote before the House and Senate. Blumenauer introduced the bill seven years ago. Previous versions were not successfully passed with the House, Senate and Presidential signature. Because Blumenauer was opposed to the bailout, he was one of the 171 to vote against it, forcing him to also vote against his long-term project.

The LAB called Wyden and Blumenauer the "congressional champions for legislation that would provide tax fairness so employers could offer the same transportation fringe benefits for bicycles they offer to employees who commute by car and public

The LAB said the next step is "to ensure that the program is implemented effectively to demonstrate that there is a demand for such a benefit." They will be working with the Internal Revenue Service to establish clear guidelines for employers interested in taking advantage of the tax break.

## Shaping up for success



First year Titan, Kody Eidenschank, winds up for a pitch during the first game against the Oregon Baseball Academy on Saturday, Oct. 11, at LCC. Photo by ISAAC VIEL/The Torch

#### Off-season Titan baseball claims victories

By TARYN ACKELSON Sports Editor

The Titans took on two opponents and claimed two big wins in Salem, Ore. on Friday, Oct. 10. One was a shutout against the Warriors of Corban College.

The 3-0 shutout is attributed in large part to pitchers Ben Schreiner and Reed Nicholson.

The highlight of the game came from first year Titan Austin Hughes, who came through with a two-out double in the bottom of the ninth.

The Titans battled the Storm of Chemeketa Community College and came out on top 5-2 with J.R. Haase's two-run homerun.

On Saturday, Oct. 11, the Titans welcomed the Oregon Baseball Academy in friendly competition on the LCC home field. The first game ended in a 6-6 tie. The Titans allowed multiple pitchers from their roster to take the mound.

In the second game, the Titans snagged a 2-1 win. Pitcher Steve Mabeus kept OBA from scoring until the third inning.

Johnny Miles hit a double in the fourth and ran for home on a hit from Haase but was tagged out at home as he slid into the OBA catcher. The Titans went on to score two runs.

Last year's South Region Champion, Linn Benton Community College, will travel to LCC to play the Titans on Saturday, Oct. 18, at 11