

McCall urges active student support of tax reform plan

Oregon Governor Tom McCall urged active student support of his tax reform plan in a speech made at the University Wednesday afternoon.

By DREX HEIKES
Of the Emerald

The governor said students should campaign for the plan which he felt "offered benefits to renters for the first time." The plan would provide a nine per cent tax relief for renters. McCall pointed out that renters now pay a property tax, "it may be

hidden in the rent, but it's a tax." He said the plan would return about \$100 annually to a student who now pays \$1200 a year in rent.

The governor dismissed accusations that personal income tax increases would hurt the student. McCall said that people earning \$3000 a year would experience a tax increase of \$18 and those receiving an annual income of \$5000 would have their taxes raised \$51.

McCall was critical of claims that the plan would take away local control of schools. "We're proposing that the state pay about 95 per cent of local school operating costs. Some opponents say the state shouldn't provide more than 60 per cent financing if local control of schools is to be maintained. I'm still scratching my head wondering how local control is salvaged at 60 per cent support and lost at 95 per cent." McCall added that "the ballot measure specifically says that one of the purposes of the act is 'to strengthen the ability of each local school board.'"

The governor said the plan would get rid of the "tin cup" actions of school board members. McCall defined "tin cup" actions as the summer-long efforts of board members to gather enough money "simply to determine if the school doors will open in the fall."

McCall accused corporations who opposed the tax reform plan, seeking instead "tax reforms that would have people paying exactly the same amounts they paid before."

McCall also criticized opponents of the plan who condemned the bill without offering a better solution. The governor said the same opponents admitted that the present tax structure was very inadequate.

Oregon Senate President Jason Boe, who accompanied McCall to Eugene, called the plan "massive" and articulated that student support would be very important in its passage. Boe had praise for the structure of the plan which he said was based on the ability to pay and not on the amount of property owned. People who want "fair and equal education should take it upon themselves to work for the reform," he said. Boe called the plan "a tax reform plan that people can be proud of."

McCall's stop in Eugene is one of many he has made throughout the state in the past weeks campaigning for passage of his plan. The plan will be brought before the voters in a special election May 1.

The governor said that specific questions about the plan and its effect on an individual or family could be obtained by calling 1-800-452-0330 toll free.

Panel member says abortion not a privilege but a right

Women should stop thinking of abortion as a privilege and begin considering it a right, according to Sue Johnson, a representative of Planned Parenthood in Eugene.

Johnson was one member of a panel on abortion presented Tuesday night by the University Feminists. Other panel members included Margaret Packard, law student, and Margie Cundy, a member of Oregon's Women's Political Caucus.

Johnson said that women are "coming in the back door" for abortions right now. "We've got to raise the consciousness of women," she said, so that collectively they will press for necessary abortion change.

Margaret Packard, a law student at the University, outlined her interpretation of the Supreme Court decision concerning abortion. Citing two landmark cases, Packard said that, as the decision stands right now, individual states are limited in the extent to which they can institute abortion restrictions. "There are three grounds on which the state may legislate abortion," she said. "Protection of a person's right to privacy, protection of the health of the mother, and preservation of future life."

Women's Political Caucus member Margie Cundy discussed several bills now in the Oregon

Legislature. "There are five bills in the legislature right now," she said. "I personally am working with SB 698, which goes along with the Supreme Court decision." The proposed bill does not require consent of spouse or parent, according to Cundy. "But would you believe," she said, "we couldn't find a single woman legislator who was interested in sponsoring the bill."

The panel members all agreed that some form of organized action is necessary to insure fair abortion legislation. Letter-writing campaigns to Salem, women pickets and extensive use of the mass media were among suggestions for mobilizing action.

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Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper - 7:30 P.M.

Good Friday: Services 12:00 - 3:00 P.M.
Liturgical Service & Communion - 7:30 P.M.

Holy Saturday: Confessions: 11:00 - 12:00 noon
Easter Vigil & Mass 11:00 P.M.

Easter Sunday: Masses 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 A.M.
NO Evening Mass on Easter