

Candidates for governor

Propst: will apply pressure where needed

Al Propst, a democratic candidate for governor who has a background in the military police, sees the current government of Oregon as a corrupt political machine. He says the corruption evident today in Washington started years ago on the local level and continues there still.

According to the candidate, the legal and medical professions in particular are involved in covering organized criminal activity that permeates all aspects of government. Propst, if elected, plans to expose judges and at-

in service to the community, and to keep people from being "ripped off by the government."

Another major concern of Propst's is the environment. He wants chemicals to be thoroughly researched in the laboratory before they are put to use on crops. He says the government has been reckless in the use of chemicals and University experts should be employed to test and determine which chemicals are best. He is glad to see the use of DDT curbed, but thinks the substitute for it should be guaranteed to protect the honeybee.

Propst also says that extending the current highway structure is a mistake. More highways to Propst mean more people in Oregon. Building nuclear power plants is another activity he is against. He supports research into an alternative to the gas engine, and says that below-ground fuels must be limited instead of above-ground fuels.

On the issue of marijuana, Propst says he has no fight against the drug itself. He doesn't believe it should be legalized, but says the offender is not made better by being thrown in jail. Propst claims drugs have been a tool that

Roberts: she has an opinion

On everything from mass transit to marijuana, abortion to alcohol, Betty Roberts, Democratic candidate for governor, has an opinion.

Roberts, 50, has been a state legislator since 1965 and cites her experience in state politics as a

these men have just not done for a number of years."

Roberts thinks the State Legislature's move to make Oregon's marijuana statute one of the most liberal in the nation was a good step.

"The law before was unen-

people, then they also should be allowed to drink. "I just don't see any consistency in those who argue, 'well, we'll let them do this, but we won't let them drink.'"

The candidate is outspoken on many issues, but believes three of them, in particular, are the most important: the energy crisis, the environment, and employment. She believes they are all related issues, saying, "We need to really be concerned about the protection of the environment while also looking for new energy sources and also developing industry."

Roberts' most recent political posts have been as the co-chair of the McGovern presidential campaign in Oregon and as assistant state Senate majority leader. Previously, she had been a teacher of political science at several Oregon high schools and at Mt. Hood Community College.

Long known as an active proponent of abortion law reform, Roberts sees both good and bad effects of the nation's current "abortion on demand" situation. "I have said over and over that I believe that it is not a proper subject for governmental regulation. The only problem I see is a situation where a doctor may exercise poor judgement in the timing of the termination of a pregnancy." She has worked on legislation which would prevent abortions after several months of pregnancy. "The only reason I was willing to work on any type of legislation dealing with abortion, was to prevent some overzealous doctor from terminating a pregnancy right up to the moment of birth."

Among many other topics covered in her interview, was the subject of public financing of campaigns (she thinks the present system of tax credits for small donations is a good one), nuclear power ("I hope the state never looks on it as a solution to the energy problem"), mass transit (state funding should be used to develop good mass transit systems, according to Roberts) and many, many others.

Dennis Pfaff



Al Propst

torneys who are guilty of corrupt power.

The governor is in a position to apply pressure and Propst claims to have enough knowledge to apply pressure where it is needed. For instance, he claims he could stop attorneys who are covering organized crime by "declining to expose and purge their own ranks."

When asked if he thought McCall was doing anything about corruption in his government, Propst replied that McCall is guilty of malfeasance in office because he has been negligent in pursuing corruption.

Furthermore, he said people are being misused and hurt because politicians aren't law abiding, and because there is no communication between the government and the people. Propst would install a "hot line" to his office for all people to use at all times. He sees himself as an informed citizen who wishes to be

lawyers have used to gain personal benefits; they have not backed policemen who were trying to make arrests, and they have accepted payment in exchange for non-prosecution of offenders. Propst doesn't have a clear solution to the problem, but says that marijuana is all right as long as it isn't hurting anyone, and the punishment for offenders should be determined in a common sense manner by the judges in each case.

And how does he feel about the competition of the major candidates? They are people who don't seem formidable; they decline to point out colleagues who might be violating the law, asserts Propst. If they continue to say that Oregon has no Watergate related crimes, Propst claims they should be prosecuted for hindering prosecution...He says they are either uninformed about the corruption or preventing others from exposing it. Lee Stevens



Betty Roberts

reason why she thinks she is the most qualified candidate for governor. "The major difference between the candidates is in experience and qualifications. Both (Robert) Straub and (James) Redden are honest, honorable people, but they have not been involved in government for a number of years."

Both Straub and Redden have held the office of state treasurer (Redden since 1972), but Roberts says. "There are interim committees that work, there are all the speeches that have to be made, and all the politicking that has to be done to get re-elected that

forceable and when it was enforceable, it was generally used for harassment. I was really delighted when Oregon realized that we're not going to throw people in jail for long periods of time for the possession of small amounts of marijuana."

She's not sure, however, if she wants to see all the penalties removed for its use. "It, at best, should be regulated as alcohol."

Roberts says she has signed every bill that has come before her to lower the drinking age in Oregon. She contends that, since 18-year-olds have all the rights and responsibilities of older



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For State Representative District 41 ALLAN COONS Democrat

"There are 5 Democratic candidates: all sincere and honest. I believe my years of experience as a conservation activist and attorney representing workers, other individuals, and citizen's organizations before various courts, administrative agencies, and legislative committees have given me the background to be the most effective Representative. Moreover, I believe I am the strongest Democrat in the field to challenge the incumbent in November."