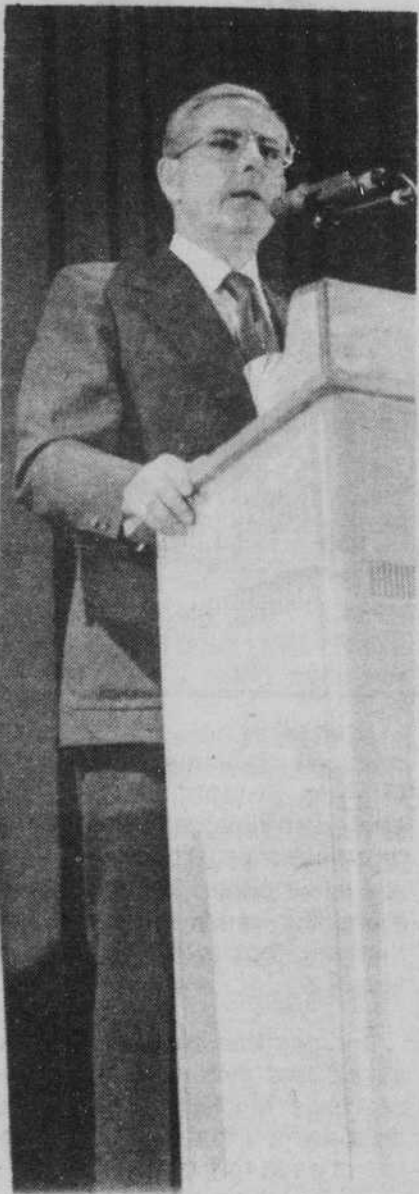
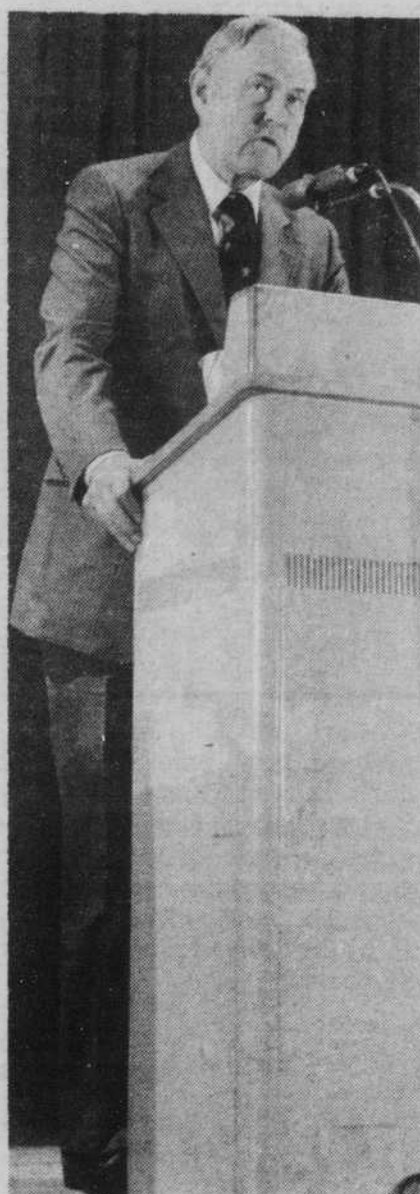


Martin opens fire on McCall, 'The King'



Victor Atiyeh



Tom McCall



Photos by AnaMaria Bell
Roger Martin

By CHRIS NORMAN
Of the Emerald

Discarding the Marques of Queensbury rules, Roger Martin lashed out at Tom McCall Friday in his opening remarks during the second of three joint Republican gubernatorial debates.

Martin, a Lake Oswego state representative who is considered the underdog in the three-way Republican bid — Victor Atiyeh, McCall, Martin — for the governor's post, directed an attack at front-running McCall before a packed house in the EMU Ballroom. The next debate is set for Wednesday in Medford.

"Oregon cannot afford a walk down memory lane," Martin said amid boos and hisses from the audience. "Tom has a right to enjoy his golden years, but not at the expense of Oregon. Unlike Tom McCall, I don't believe Oregon needs a king."

McCall ignored Martin's comments until he said, "I was a college professor at Oregon State (University), as well as

governor...and king..." His response drew laughter and applause from the audience.

Atiyeh, however, made a point to stand above "image battle" and said he feels he'll benefit from the sniping.

In Martin's two-minute remarks, punctuated by audience boos, he said, "I don't support Tom's interest in building a bureaucratic empire in Salem — that's not the issue today. Unlike Tom McCall, I'm not preoccupied with national titles or beauty contests. If Tom wants to be Oregon's ambassador, fine. That approach may have been popular centuries ago in 1966, but it's not popular today."

When the candidates responded to questions from a three-member panel, they revealed nothing new in their positions on various issues from what they said a week earlier in the first debate in Portland.

• **Herbicides** — None of the candidates said forestry herbicide use should be banned, but each warned about potential safety

problems. Martin said herbicides should undergo independent testing, "but banning is not the answer." Atiyeh suggested the "experts" should set up "buffer zones" to protect rivers and people. McCall said political decisions shouldn't overrule what should be a scientific judgment.

• **Higher education** — All the candidates expressed dissatisfaction with the budgeting method for higher education. Atiyeh said higher education should develop its own goals and hold down tuition. He also applauded the Legislature for not politically punishing higher education because of the turbulent '60s. McCall agreed with Atiyeh's suggestion and said "we've got to get the most bang out of the buck." Martin criticized Gov. Bob Straub because of the "terrible beating" he has given higher education with the estimated \$5 million underfunding. He said although higher education is often the "favorite whipping boy of the Legislature," he promised no tuition increases.

• **On a related higher education**

topic, McCall said better budgeting methods are needed, such as zero-base budgeting, "not just the same old flim-flam." Martin said a program budgeting formula is needed, not a plan based on the student population. Atiyeh said he would stress giving education to those students who want an education.

• **Timber** — Martin said a Tillamook Burn reforestation plan would provide a valuable resource and possibly 500 new jobs, but has not been managed properly. He blamed poor forest management on the federal government and said the next governor would have to take a "tough stand" against the federal government. Atiyeh said he agreed with Martin and said "Oregon is at the cruel hands of the Eastern politicians." Rather than federal management of Oregon forests, he prefers local experts to run the show. McCall mirrored the earlier remarks, but felt a new Secretary of Agriculture is necessary, "not one from the flatlands of Kansas or Iowa. We need a fighting SOB who knows how to grow trees."

• **Abortion** — Atiyeh said he opposes unrestricted abortions, but would uphold the laws of Oregon which provide funding for welfare recipients. He, however, supports restrictions on the numbers of abortions women can have. McCall emphasized he had supported the 1969 bill legalizing abortions, but he supports Atiyeh's restrictions. Martin said he opposes abortion funding, but said, "We need a better job of counseling young women. The state of Oregon has not given any

alternatives to abortion."

• **Gay rights** — In a surprisingly brief statement, McCall said he has never denied anyone's civil rights. But Martin received boos from the audience when he said he would veto any bill that would take away the power of a school board to fire a gay teacher. Atiyeh said he would make "no recommendation for a law on the subject."

• **Field Burning** — Martin said he would support the extension of open field burning. But, he added, the attitude of grass seed growers have changed because they know their livelihood depends on local air quality. Atiyeh said he supports the field burning because he found no alternatives feasible. But he will "beef up research of other alternatives." Martin said if the grass seed growers were forced to stop burning, they would pick up their industry and leave.

• **Energy and nuclear power** — None of the candidates supported a ban on nuclear power, but all stressed the importance of energy alternatives. Atiyeh said he would emphasize energy conservation incentive programs and push for solar energy research. He also blamed the federal government for "dragging their heels" on the nuclear waste disposal problem. Martin agreed with Atiyeh's comments on the waste problem, and predicted "history will repeat itself and get back to smaller generating plants." McCall also stressed conservation and other energy alternatives, rather than relying on nuclear power.

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