

Atiyeh forces Straub onto comeback trail

Analysis by JACK CONDLIFFE
Of the Emerald

The word is out — Bob Straub is making his comeback. The question is why does an incumbent governor need to make a comeback?

Straub has been as much as 20 percentage points behind challenger Vic Atiyeh in the polls, probably due to his weak leadership style and slow campaign tactics. Straub now trails the state senator from Beaverton by just three to four points in the polls. Atiyeh's vigorous and polished run for the governorship seat has hindered Straub in his re-election effort. The veteran legislator is well known for his oratory style and grasp of the issues.

Issues, plural should really be issue, singular, and the issue is taxes and spending. Atiyeh has embraced Ballot Measure 6, while Straub is pushing the Legislature's alternative, Measure 11.

Measure 6 would limit local property taxes to 1.5 percent of the 1975 assessed value property. Measure 11 places no limit on assessed value, but cuts property taxes in half up to a \$1,500 limit and places a limit on state spending.

The two candidates are now barnstorming the state. Straub is saying Measure 6 is disaster for local governments and that Measure 11 meets the requirements of cutting property taxes and putting a lid on state spending.

Atiyeh taps Straub as the man responsible for the ballooning state bureaucracy and reminds voters that the state budget doubled during Straub's tenure in the governor's office.

Atiyeh says he is following the "wishes of 200,000 Oregonians" by endorsing



Gubernatorial candidates Vic Atiyeh and Gov. Bob Straub don't see eye to eye on most campaign issues. Atiyeh has been stumping the state pushing for Measure 6 — an across the board cut in property taxes. Straub adamantly favors Measure 11. Straub called a special legislative session to formulate Measure 11, which provides for a 50 percent cut in property taxes.

Measure 6. He says that as governor he will lead the Legislature in correcting deficiencies in Measure 6. Atiyeh is confident he can obtain the two-thirds legislative approval that will be required to change Measure 6 if voters approve it.

Straub says Atiyeh has hurt himself by his endorsement of Measure 6. The

governor says the challenger waffled on his position on 6 until after the Legislature placed Measure 11 on the ballot. The implication is that Atiyeh adopted his stand to differentiate himself from Straub.

Other major issues have been lost in the tax measures, and the two candi-

dates have significantly different stands on them. Atiyeh's stand varies from Straub's on issues such as nuclear power, herbicides and the death penalty.

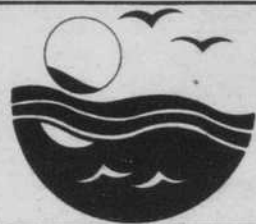
• **Herbicides** — Straub recently pushed strict herbicide regulations through the State Board of Forestry requiring 200-foot buffer zones between spray areas and residences and streams. Atiyeh accuses Straub of a political stand on a scientific issue. "What basis does the governor have for a 200-foot buffer?" Atiyeh asks. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has informed 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D manufacturers that the EPA may suspend use of the substances because of scientific evidence of hazards.

• **Nuclear power** — Straub cannot be considered an opponent of nuclear power, although he says he takes "a dim view" of its development. Straub did say recently that he is not convinced the proposed Pebble Springs nuclear plants are necessary. Atiyeh supports the construction of the Pebble Springs plants.

• **Death Penalty** — Atiyeh says the limited use of the death penalty set out in Ballot Measure 8 would deter murders. Straub strongly disagrees the death penalty would be a deterrent.

• **People's Utility Districts** — Straub favors passage of Ballot Measure 4, which simplifies the procedures to form PUD's. Atiyeh opposes passage.

• **Abortion** — Atiyeh personally opposes abortion but says that as long as abortion is legal in Oregon, poor women should not be discriminated against. Straub personally pushed through an appropriation by the State Emergency Board for state funded abortions when Congress cut off federal funds.



catherine siegener

of environmental concern

A fire at Bonneville Dam Friday, knocked out three of ten generators and caused over \$200,000 damage, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reported.

A short circuit caused the fire, which originally had seven generators out before repairs were restored all but three early Saturday.

Ed Ashley, project engineer at Bonneville, said no internal damage to the generators is suspected.

Hearings will begin today on whether the Trojan nuclear plant should be restarted while modifications to control construction are being made.

Several environmental groups and individuals requested hearings on the modifications, and the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board received testimony on the issue in August.

Trojan's majority owner, Portland General Electric Co., has requested the NRC first take up the issue of interim operation before the modifications are examined.

The hearings will take place Monday through Wednesday at the Capitol Building in Salem. They will continue Thursday and Friday at the Bonneville Power Administration auditorium in Portland.

The University's Outdoor Program is sponsoring a trip to Duffy Lake this weekend. It will be a backpacking adventure, with a 5.8 mile hike each way.

The Outdoor Program's trips are open to the public, with beginners especially encouraged to attend. There will be a pre-trip meet-

ing Thursday night at 7 p.m. in the Outdoor Program office (Room 23 EMU).

A sign-up sheet is posted in the Outdoor Program office, or people may sign up by calling 686-4365.

Chuck John of Eugene will operate one of two wild horse adoption centers set up by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

BLM's Adopt-A-Horse program began in 1974 to provide "ecological balance on western ranges, and provide humane treatment for surplus wild horses," according to a department news release.

John is a former president of the Lane County Humane Association, and has unofficially helped dozens of wild horses find homes with Willamette Valley residents. He will operate the adoption center at 88930 Greenhill Road in Eugene.

A \$38 fee for transporting and maintaining the horses will be charged for each animal. Applications and information about adopting a horse are available by writing to Adopt-A-Horse, P.O. Box 25047, Denver, Colo., 80225. BLM will notify those applicants with adequate facilities for maintaining a wild horse when an animal is available.

The Audubon Society of Lane County is sponsoring two films and a trip this week.

The Society's annual membership meeting on Tuesday night is free and open to the public. "Wilderness, Who Needs It?" a new National Audubon Society film about the sociological aspects of wilderness areas, and "Think Like A Mountain," a Forest Service film about rare and endangered species, will be shown.

The films will be at the Central Presbyterian Church, 1475 Ferry St., starting at 7:30 p.m.



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