

Proxmire stumps for Weaver

By JACK CONDIFFE
Of the Emerald

Sen. William Proxmire, D-Wis., known for his "Golden Fleece" awards, came to town Saturday to boost Oregon Rep. Jim Weaver's record as a budget cutter.

"It is completely, 100 percent false that Weaver is a big spender," Proxmire said.

Weaver's opponent, Jerry Lausmann, has charged that Weaver is one of the top 10 spenders in Congress.

Lausmann says Weaver has a good spending record because he votes against 98 percent of defense appropriations and for everything else.

Proxmire cited Weaver's votes against the congressional pay raise; in favor of a reduction in and against construction of a new \$2.1 billion nuclear carrier as proof of Weaver's record.

Proxmire says the total cost of running and equipping the carrier would have been \$15 billion over its full life. "It would last 15 minutes in a war with the Russians," he said.

'Golden Fleece' creator chronicles Demo's votes as against big spending

Proxmire also blasted \$1 billion in claims from Litton Industries for the carrier. The claims were to cover Litton's costs in preparing to build the nuclear carrier. Proxmire said \$400 million of the claims were found justified by Navy procurement experts.

Proxmire initiated the monthly Golden Fleece award in 1975 for the most wasteful examples of government spending. He frequently had the crowd of about 80 laughing with a litany of inane government studies privileged to have received the Golden Fleece.

- A National Science Foundation study to find out why people fall in love.

- A \$27,000 Law Enforcement Assistance Administration study to determine why prison inmates try to escape.

- A \$47,000 Department of Agriculture

study about how long it takes to cook breakfast.

- A study to find out why people get mad when the tennis courts they want are taken.

- A Federal Aviation Administration study to determine the measurements of stewardesses.

- A \$103,000 study to find out if sunfish that drink tequila are more aggressive than sunfish that drink gin.

Proxmire told the audience that alcoholism was a serious problem worthy of government research dollars. He pointed out that humans were 1.5 billion years further along the evolutionary scale than sunfish. "At least we Democrats are," he said.

Under questioning from the audience, Proxmire said Congress has just realized voters want spending cuts, not just cuts. "It's not enough to cut taxes. A tax cut without a spending cut is phony; it's inflationary," Proxmire said.

Proxmire also said conservatism was not inconsistent with liberal politics. "Conservation of all our resources, water, land, human is consistent," he said.



Photo by F.H.A.T. Axmacher

William Proxmire

Chip puts in a word for Demos

Chip Carter, son of Jimmy, paid a campaign appearance to the University Friday on behalf of Democrat Gov. Bob Straub and U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore.

Carter spoke to University student leaders at a Breakfast meeting in the EMU; appeared at a voter registration rally on the EMU terrace and spoke to 150 Lane Community College students.

Carter urged his audiences to register and vote in the Nov. 7



Chip Carter

elections. "Registration and voting is paramount. We have the lowest turnout of many countries I have visited," he said.

Carter was on the last leg of a six-day campaign tour on behalf of Democratic candidates. Asked how Democrat's chances were nationally, Carter, 28, said he thought they were good. He said he was impressed that eight of the Congressional candidates he campaigned for were younger than himself.

Carter was also asked about his father's stands on a number of issues. He said his father is proceeding with the neutron bomb only as a bargaining chip in the SALT II talks. The differences between the neutron bomb and other nuclear weapons are a farce, he said.

He also said his father opposes the tuition tax credit unless it is graduated by income levels.

Weaver pockets weenie

U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver, D-Ore., has won a "green weenie" for thwarting development of nuclear power.

The award is given annually by a group of employees from Westinghouse, which is one of the world's largest nuclear power plant-manufacturers.

Weaver was cited for his co-sponsorship of a bill to establish a five-year moratorium on nuclear power.

Told of the award, Weaver said, "I never eat hot dogs. They have too many poisons."

California Gov. Jerry Brown also won a green weenie as well as a "Blackout Brigade" plaque for stopping further nuclear development in California.

Other recipients were Reps. Leo Ryan, D-Calif.; James Jeffords, R-Vt.; Robert Carr, D-Mich.; and Richard Ottinger, D-N.Y.



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