

Dix takes stands on education, South Africa

By Shawn Wirtz
Of the Emerald

Democratic candidate to state House District 41 David Dix said increasing tuition at the universities is taxing Oregon's future and federal budget cuts are making it impossible for students from middle-income families to attend college.

"The Human Resources Department has come before the Emergency Board and said two areas will be especially hurt by Gramm-Rudman, higher education and senior services," Dix said.

Cuts in higher education will strangle the economies of local university communities as well as our competitiveness as a nation, he said. Oregonians can't compete with the "Pacific Rim, where the Japanese put a great deal of emphasis on education," unless Oregon does the same, he added.

Dix, who worked in the House Majority office during

the last Legislative session, said, "We were able to put money into faculty salaries and begin putting some into buildings on campus."

Dix will continue to fight for increased funding in those areas as well as for a tuition freeze. "The third area is figuring out a way to provide some kind of merit scholarship system out of high school for Oregon students in particular," Dix said. "I don't favor giving grants based on merit," Dix then said.

As part of his economic development program, Dix would like to move higher education away from its emphasis on the law school and the MBA program and start to get students to "think in terms of becoming entrepreneurs," he said.

Dix also would like to see an institute that offers degrees in small business management on the University campus, he said. This kind of education is



David Dix

critical because 85 percent of businesses fail because of managerial failures, he said.

If elected, Dix said he will support divestment of state funds from South Africa. "I'm endorsed by the public

employees of this state, they know my stand and it's their money," Dix affirmed.

"For the most part they don't want their pension funds earning interest on the slave labor of others," he said.

The insurance liability crisis is a "scam" perpetrated by the insurance industry, Dix said. Dix accused his opponent of intending to further the interests of the insurance industry, while he intends to represent the consumer, he said.

Where caps on damages have been instituted, rates have not decreased, Dix said. "Limiting contingency fees will not cut down on frivolous lawsuits. What it will do is limit people who don't have the resources," he explained.

Dix opposes Ballot Measure Five, which would legalize the cultivation of marijuana for private use, but said he would not support repealing current

laws which decriminalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana.

"I think this drug strategy is coming down from the Republican National Committee," Dix said. "The question of jail space, of people serving the time, those are the bigger questions," he said.

While Dix filed the lawsuit against the WPPSS nuclear power plants along with Lane County Commissioner Peter DeFazio, he said he does not support Ballot Measure 14, which would force closure of the Trojan nuclear power plant.

"My concern is that ratepayers should not face a tremendous burden, Dix said.

"Students should go to the polls and vote against Measure Nine," Dix said. Ballot Measure Nine, which would limit property taxes to 1.5 percent of assessed valuation, would severely curtail funds for higher education, Dix explained.

Et al.

MEETINGS

National Student Exchange Exploratory meeting will take place today at 12:30 p.m. in Room 110 EMU.

Men Against Rape will meet tonight at 7 in Century Room E, EMU.

Evaluatory blood drive meeting today at 3:30 p.m. in Century Room B, EMU.

Pre-law students association will meet today at 4 p.m. in Room 211, Oregon Hall. Campus Crusade for Christ meets tonight at 8:30 in 342 Gilbert.

LECTURES

Debate on Ballot Measure 15 tonight at 7 in 138 Gilbert. Panel discussion on drug

testing, today at 2:30 p.m. in the Forum Room, EMU.

Dr. Arnold Trebach addresses the American war on drugs tonight at 8 in Room 167 EMU.

MISCELLANEOUS

Career Assessment Program meeting today at 2 p.m. in Room 237 Hendricks.

Deadline for submitting Et als to the Emerald front desk, 300 EMU, is noon the day before publication. Et als are run only once. Events with a donation or admission charge will not be considered. Events occurring nearest the publication date and campus events will be given priority.

Museum hosts 'open house'

The first-annual student day at the University Museum of Art will take place Wednesday to promote greater awareness and student involvement with the museum, said Margo Ballentine, who helped organize the project.

Museum docent members will be on hand to give talks and guided tours of the galleries from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free unless specified in the case of a specific presentation.

Too often students do not discover the museum until their junior or senior year and then regret they had not been more involved, said Jon Cruson, membership chairman of the Friends of the Museum of Art. We want students to come out and see the museum, whether they wish to become members or not, he said.

The Friends of the Museum of Art acts as an "auxiliary right arm of the museum," helping in the general operations of the museum, said Richard Paulin, University Museum of

Art museum director.

Membership fees and donations from the more than 800 student members in the state provide income for museum acquisitions and exhibitions. Paulin said he would like to see the membership increase to more than 1,000.

Residents of Schafer Hall, the University's creative arts dormitory, will be on hand to greet people and assist with the membership drive, said Quenby Miller, a Schafer Hall resident assistant.

"We are not expecting miracles. We're just trying to get some exposure for the museum and get some kids over there," Miller said. "We hope to become involved (at the museum) in the future, and this is a good place to start," she added.

The museum will provide group tours free of charge when requested, Paulin said. The University Museum of Art is open from Wednesday to Sunday from noon until 5 p.m.

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