

Oregon Daily Emerald

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Hart makes Eugene appearance to help boost DeFazio campaign

By Shawn Wirtz
Of the Emerald

Former Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., flew into Eugene on Wednesday to champion Peter DeFazio, candidate for the 4th Congressional District seat, as "one of the new generation of Democratic leaders".

DeFazio introduced Hart as a presidential candidate, but Hart was quick to respond with, "former candidate."

"We'll talk about that after Peter's elected," Hart replied to an inquiry concerning his status as a 1988 presidential contender.

"This is the last two years of the Reagan era," Hart proclaimed. He predicted the Democrats will regain control of the Senate 52-48, and he said the 100th Congress needs DeFazio in the House of Representatives.

"What Peter DeFazio stands for are the traditional values and principles of the Democratic Party, which other Democrats have abandoned," Hart said.

"The best indicator of that is his continued commitment to a strong and secure Social Security program," he said. Hart urged the audience to participate in DeFazio's campaign. "Give him a little money if you haven't been devastated by Reaganomics," he said.

Hart lauded DeFazio for advocating decreased military expenditures. "What our values as a society ought to be is not Star Wars and smart bombs, it ought to be a productive economy and smart people," Hart said.

He criticized President Reagan's performance at the U.S.-Soviet summit in Reykjavik, Iceland. "In exchange for preserving the right for 10 years to test exotic, new weapons in space... he abandoned the possibility of dramatic reductions in offensive ballistic



Photo by James Marks

Sen. Gary Hart stopped in Eugene Wednesday to help Democratic Candidate Peter DeFazio campaign in his bid for Oregon's 4th Congressional District seat.

missiles," Hart said.

"It was a very, very poor bargain indeed," he said. Hart would have accepted General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's offer. "Are you kidding? Absolutely. Absolutely," he said.

Spokesman for DeFazio's opponent Republican Bruce Long, Todd Bankofier said he was not surprised

Hart came to support DeFazio. He noted that the National Taxpayers Union voted Hart one of the biggest spenders in Congress "four of the last five years."

"He's probably known as the premier liberal in Congress," Bankofier said. "So that's on par with Mr. DeFazio."

OSPIRG's funds frozen in injunction

By Stan Nelson
Of the Emerald

The ASUO Constitution Court, in a court injunction Wednesday, froze funding of the University-chapter Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group for political activities, but the ASUO Executive said the injunction is invalid.

The injunction, submitted by Incidental Fee Committee member James Randall, asks the court to restrict OSPIRG from spending incidental fee-allocated funds, from using Suite 1 of the Erb Memorial Union for political purposes, and from listing its office phone in Suite 1 on partisan advertisements.

Randall said he requested the injunction on behalf of himself, and the request in no way reflects the collective opinion of the IFC.

The ASUO Executive believes that the injunction exceeds the Constitution Court's authority, said Steve Nelson, ASUO president. The wording of the Constitution Court's description of duties in the Green Tape Notebook, which outlines administrative duties, is ambiguous and the ASUO Constitution makes no mention of the Court acting in this capacity, he said.

The document is deceptive because Randall submitted the request on IFC stationery and signed the document as James T. Randall, member, Nelson said. It implies that the request had the support of the IFC, he added.

Constitution Court member Jon Folkestad, who granted the restraining order, said the order is within the authority of the court to issue a temporary restraining order. If a group is not complying with governing rules, even EMU Board rules, then an injunction can and will be granted upon valid evidence that shows a violation has occurred, he said.

Randall presented a valid argument for

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Higher education experts blast ballot's tax measures

By Chris Norred
Of the Emerald

Several of Oregon's higher education experts are warning that ballot measures 9, 11 and 12 will be disastrous for state colleges and universities.

University President Paul Olum blasted all three measures, saying that passage of any one could cripple Oregon State System of Higher Education institutions, which he termed the "the best bargain in higher education in the U.S."

State System Chancellor William Davis also denounced the tax measures, saying they would only result in "tax shifts" that could, at worst, severely hamper the quality of education, and "at best, one could only project a continuation of the status quo, when it has been clearly demonstrated that we need to invest more in higher education in Oregon."

But proponents of the measures are saying the future

economic benefits, which Oregon may derive from the measures, will pay dividends to all segments of the state, including higher education.

Ballot Measure 9 has received the strongest criticism from educators at all levels in the state. Measure 9 calls for an amendment to the state constitution, which would set a maximum property-tax rate and limit annual increases of assessed property value to 2 percent.

New or increased property-tax rates would require voter approval if Ballot Measure 9 passes. Measure 9 is the fifth property-tax limitation measure to reach an Oregon ballot in as many elections.

Oregon's higher education institutions do not receive funding from property taxes.

"The way Measure 9 would affect the University is that the legislature would then be left with the problem of how to keep the (elementary and secondary)

schools running. Then we're in grave risk that one of two terrible things would happen: either they will let all the things that matter so much in our society, like elementary and secondary schools, fall apart; or they will have to divert a very large share of income taxes that are now going to other purposes into helping to run the school systems," Olum said.

"And if that happens, we will be in terrible trouble."

But Jana Bader Jarvis of Oregon Taxpayers United, who is pushing for passage of Measure 9, said its effects on higher education would be negligible.

Currently property-tax rates in Oregon are set by local levies, and higher education's funding comes from state-wide taxes. So a cut in property taxes would not equal a cut in higher education funding, Jarvis said.

Measure 9 opponents think that a property tax cut would

force the legislature to spend more state-wide tax money on elementary, secondary and community college education, but that is "just a guess on their part, one of many possible scenarios," Jarvis said.

All revenues lost in public education, K-12, do not need to be made up, Jarvis said. She noted that Oregon spends \$1,000 more per student than any of its four neighboring states.

"We the supporters feel very, very strongly that this is a measure that'll turn Oregon's economy around," Jarvis said. Oregon needs to tighten the belt on public services and allow private enterprise the opportunity to boost the economy, she said.

"I believe very strongly in higher education, and I believe we will all benefit together," she said.

Higher education should be scared of Measure 9, but higher

education experts' fear of measure's 11 and 12 is based on a lack of understanding, said Mike Farber, regional organizer of Oregon Fair Share, which is sponsoring measures 11 and 12.

Measure 11 would exempt from taxation 50 percent of a residence valued up to a maximum of \$25,000. School districts, cities, and county governments would lose \$310 million in property tax revenues, according to the Legislative Revenue Office. The state is required by the measure to then make up 80 percent of the lost revenues.

Measure 12 would increase personal and corporate income taxes by \$293 million to make up the deficit left by Measure 11.

"To transfer property tax to a huge income tax burden sounds very nice. It sounds like you're just hitting the rich and hitting

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