Dwyer stresses education, taxes

By Shawn Wirtz Of the Emerald

There are not enough working people in the Legislature, said Bill Dwyer, Democratic candidate for state House District 42. Dwyer is a selfemployed house painter.

The odds are against an individual being able to make a living without a college education. Dwyer said. "If we're going to compete in this next century, we're going to have to con-tinue to develop our educa-tional resources," he said.

Dwyer supports faculty salary increases and a tuition freeze he said. "We have to pay the qualified people enough to mak, it attractive for them to stay in Oregon," he said.

"My other concern is to keep education affordable so we don't have education just for the elite or the wealthy or the chosen," Dwyer said.

The state has a responsibility to provide an education and "demonstrate that if they're (students) willing to accept that opportunity, we're willing to support them," he said.

Education is the key to economic development "because it attracts industry." Dwyer said. "There are certain benefits that rub off on private industry, and they're quick to see that," he continued.

However, "business wants the benefits of education, but they don't want to be taxed," Dwyer said. "People want their children to be educated so they can grow up to be successful, but they don't want to pay taxes." he said.

Consequently, "there's only so much money, and everybody wants some of it," he said. To counter this lack of revenues. "what you do is you get the economy rolling," he said.

"We are pretty close to getting on an even keel," Dwyer said. Providing property tax relief through ballot measures 11 and 12 would be a good step toward stimulating Oregon's economy, he said.

"The Homestead Exemption is a good idea. It actually gives the relief to those who need it." Dwver said.

Higher tax rates for corporations are fair and won't inhibit business profits, he said. "My heart isn't exactly bleeding (for corporations) when I see widows getting taxed out of their homes," Dwyer said.

Dwyer does not support Ballot Measure 9, which would provide property tax relief through a 1.5 percent limitation, because "there is no funding mechanism to keep government moving," he said.

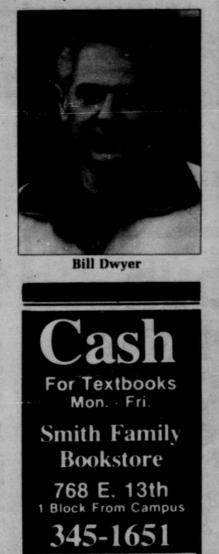
The Legislature has failed in not addressing the threat of property tax revolt sooner, Dwyer said. "Updating tax bases would go a long way in solving the problem," he said.

Dwyer supports divestment of state funds from South Africa. he said. "I don't like to see us intervene in the affairs of other countries, but morally I think we've got an obligation to oppose it (apartheid)."

The insurance liability crisis is a crisis of unavailability, not unprofitability, Dwyer said.

'My main concern is to keep the costs down for everyone and also to regulate an industry that to date hasn't really been regulated," Dwyer said. "I don't have any faith in the insurance industry to be benevolent."

Dwyer opposes tort reform. "The whole thing is really an attack on our system. I'm going to do whatever it takes to maintain access to our courts," he said. "The bottom line is I'm concerned about protecting the victims," he said.



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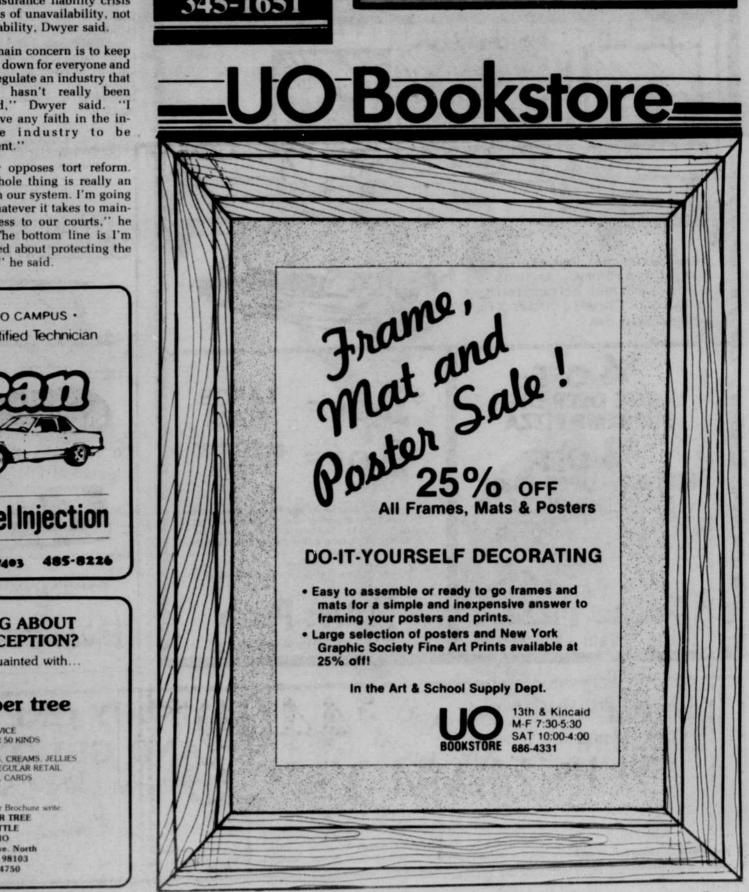
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