

# Goldschmidt speaks against higher speed limit

By B.J. Thomsen  
Of the Emerald

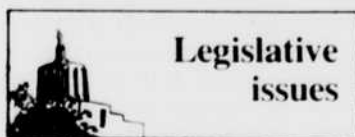
SALEM — Gov. Neil Goldschmidt said Tuesday that he would prefer the current maximum speed limit on Oregon roads and highways not be raised.

"I am not in favor of raising the speed limit, but I think the Legislature is going to raise it," he said.

As written now, HB 3147 also would make illegal radar detectors used to foil attempts by

police to catch speeders.

The bill, if passed, would eliminate the current 55 mph speed limit without the loss of federal highway funds.



Legislative issues

Earlier this month Congress overrode a presidential veto of a highway funds bill, part of

which stipulated that states that raise speed limits no longer will forfeit federal highway funds. The bill repealed a 1973 law passed by Congress that said states would enforce a 55 mph speed limit or lose all federal highway funds.

Oregon was the first state to enact the 55 mph speed limit.

The Oregon bill to repeal the current speed limit is now before the House Transportation Committee, and public hearings were held late last week.

Goldschmidt also expressed disappointment at the failure of the House last Thursday to pass by a vote of 25 to 35 a bill (SB 87) that would require Oregonians to wear safety belts. On Friday a motion to reconsider the vote was carried 53 to 6, and the bill was referred to the House Human Resources Committee.

"I would have rather they passed it in the House, but I think now it will go to the voters," Goldschmidt said. "If it is not possible to pass a measure mandating seat belts, I would support a referral to the voters."

Goldschmidt said the main

reason he would like to see the seat belt bill passed is because he is confident that the speed limit will be increased. And the Oregon Traffic Safety Commission has said, according to Goldschmidt, that the mandatory seat belt law coupled with the increase in speed limit would actually save lives.

This is compared to the present situation where average speeds are in excess of 60 mph and there is no seat belt requirement.

The Traffic Safety Commission, despite this statement, has come out strongly against HB 3147 and strongly in favor of SB 87.



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## Proposal endorsed to help community college transfer

By Chris Norred  
Of the Emerald

SALEM — A proposal to help students transfer from two-year community colleges to public four-year colleges and universities was endorsed Tuesday by the House Education Committee.

But the proposal could lead to conflict in the State System of Higher Education.

The proposal, House Bill 2913, requires a committee to develop a uniform system of course numbers that will be used for lower-division classes in community colleges and four-year colleges across the state.

which were boiled into the bill passed on Tuesday.

The measure requires a course-numbering committee to be appointed by State System Chancellor William Davis and the executive director of community college services, Mike Holland. The State System and community colleges are to be equally represented on the committee, which will develop the uniform numbering system by July 1, 1990.

In the fall of 1990, the state's four-year colleges and universities are planning to convert to the semester calendar.

The State System already is doing what the bill, if passed, will require it to do, said Larry Pierce, vice chancellor for academic affairs. The State System already has set up a working committee to re-evaluate courses as part of the semester system conversion process, he said.

Some of the four-year colleges and universities already have developed specific transfer agreements with selected community colleges. Such agreements usually say that an associate's degree from a community college will transfer fully to the four-year school.

Administrators at the University have said the specific transfer agreements are much more desirable than the

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## 'Report from Africa'

*Peace Corps Volunteer Margaret Pettibone of Seattle, a health and nutrition specialist serving in the West African nation of The Gambia, recently wrote this account of her work in that developing country.*

"Bakendik is a Gambian farming village located on the North bank of the Gambia River, not far from the Senegalese border. There are 1,000 people living here speaking diverse languages of Mandinka, Wolof, Fula, Jola and Serrehule. Two chiefs preside over the village, one a Mandinka, one a Wolof. Both served in the British Army during WWII. The main activity is farming — rice and vegetables by the women and couscous by the men.

One villager, Mustapha Jammen, has been propagating Mango trees in his back yard in tin cans for 5 years or more. He was encouraged to do this when he heard radio reports out of Senegal talking of the advance of the desert. (There is, of course, no electricity here, so he listens when he has batteries.) When the trees are about 18 inches high he transplants them to a field and carries water to them from a well which is about one quarter mile distant. He protects his trees with bamboo fences and bits of corrugated tin.

There is no herd law here so goats, sheep, and the big horned African cattle wander at will. Anything green attracts them. The survival rate for Mustapha's trees is very low. After five years he has 7 trees.

As a Peace Corps Volunteer I was posted to this village to investigate the causes of malnutrition. At the same time, I became aware every day that the land was blowing — here they call it the Harmattan winds. Sand is everywhere.

In the hopes of increasing food production, changing land use and perhaps altering the work load of women, the villagers and I began talking of tree planting. Together with Mustapha, the Primary School Headmaster, and a prominent woman we obtained U.S. A I D funds to provide adequate fencing and an accessible water supply for a fruit farm. School children are each assigned a tree to care for and can be seen watering their trees morning and night. Villagers who were skeptical of Mustapha's vision are now asking how to start their own. It is a beginning."

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Wed., Apr. 29  
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
EMU, Maple Room  
"Peace Corps Perspective On Sierra Leone"



Legislative issues

"There is a real need for this bill," said Education Committee Chairman Bruce Hugo, D-Scappoose. "If for no other purpose, to at least guarantee cooperation between the State System and Oregon's community colleges."

Transfer students often claim they "lose" credits or have to repeat classes because four-year colleges and universities will not credit them for classes from community colleges that have the same subject matter but different numbers.

The transfer-credit issue sparked a handful of bills in the Legislature this session, most of

## Correction

The Oregon Daily Emerald incorrectly identified Keith Balderston in Monday's Streetwise. The photograph next to which Ibraheem Wahab's name appeared was actually of Balderston. The Emerald regrets any confusion this may have caused.

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