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Governor proposes new higher ed plan

By Chris Bouneff
Emerald Associate Editor

Gov. Neil Goldschmidt announced plans Thursday to propose a \$60 million package to the 1991 Legislature to fund several higher education programs, including a \$50 million appropriation to increase faculty salaries.

The announcement came during Goldschmidt's annual state of the state address at the Eugene Hilton, which was the third of four speeches the governor is making around the state.

"I intend to make sure that every teacher, researcher, support staff, alum and citizen can travel these United States of America telling their colleagues ... that Oregon higher education knows what it takes to achieve greatness," Goldschmidt said.

Higher education officials called Goldschmidt's plan to

request \$60 million a giant step forward, and said the Legislature and Oregonians need to embrace the governor's proposal.

"I think the governor demonstrated an excellent understanding of the critical issues affecting higher education," said University President Myles Brand. "If the proposal is realized, we will be able to move forward measurably."

Brand said the immediate problem is providing competitive faculty salaries, and that the governor's proposal is an essential first step in addressing that need.

"The Legislature and population will have to rise to the occasion," Brand said. "I hope Oregonians have begun to realize the important role that higher education plays in this state."

Chancellor Thomas Bartlett also said Goldschmidt's pro-

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Photo by Andre Ranieri

Gov. Neil Goldschmidt called for increased higher education funding during his speech in Eugene yesterday.

Book reading draws large crowd Kesey, students co-author 'Caverns'

By Stephanie Holland
Emerald Reporter

Ken Kesey removed his brown loafers and red socks Thursday night before reading parts of *Caverns*, the novel written last year by Kesey and his University writing class.

He wanted to make sure he didn't slip on the smooth surface of the table-sized podium in 150 Columbia Hall as he stood reading and making the audience laugh.

Although Kesey was definitely the center of attention, he didn't drown himself in the admiration of the standing-room-only crowd, or blind himself by staring into the television cameras.

After reading the introduction and a passage from the novel, Kesey introduced his former students and co-authors before deftly dismissing the thick audience to a thunderous applause.

Kesey didn't allow the event to become a question and answer session. He drank from a red water bottle as he casually told of the first guideline he taught his students: "Don't look for the answer; the answer is usually dull. Look for the mystery."

"Mystery and magic is hard to come by. We've just about bled it dry everywhere you look," he said.

"What Spielberg hasn't squeezed empty, Lucas has worked over. There's not much left that you can get ex-



Photo by Andre Ranieri

Minus socks and shoes, writer Ken Kesey reads from the collaborative novel *Caverns*.

cited about and feel there's something in there that makes the hair on the back of your arms stand up," he said.

Kesey said the group of 13 graduate students, ranging from 22 to 42 years of age, met twice each week last year around his large dining room

table. "The book began to push everything else out of the way," he said.

Kesey said the goals were to conceive an idea, make a rough draft, write, rewrite

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Culture, religion barriers to open AIDS discussion

By Alice Thornton
Emerald Reporter

Students openly discussed the problem of AIDS Thursday during a roundtable discussion called "AIDS in the World" as part of Aids Information Month.

Participants proposed that differences in culture and religion can create barriers to open discussions about AIDS. Conservative countries may have more problems coping with the disease and the tragedies it causes.

Juanita Soerakoesomah, a student from Indonesia, said that homosexuality is not commonly accepted in her country. Frank discussions about sexuality also are uncommon.

"In Indonesia, it has to do with religious beliefs. Homosexuality isn't really accepted yet," she said. "It (AIDS) is a hush-hush thing. There've only been about three cases reported."

Tina Zamora, a student from the Philippines, said religion is the primary barrier to frank discussion in her country.

"It's a very Catholic country, and there's no public discussion of AIDS," she said.

A lack of proper education and medical techniques was also blamed for the spread of the disease internationally.

Student Will White said the Soviet Union is severely lacking in proper medical and educational approaches to dealing with AIDS.

"Medicine is so archaic in the Soviet Union that they're spreading the disease rapidly."

White said, adding that parents do not discuss sex with their children.

"If you can't expect a parent to talk about sex, then you can't expect them to talk about AIDS," he said.

Caroline Steele talked about the lack of proper education in Italy.

"In Italy, the young people don't use condoms. They still have this belief that 'I'm not going to get it,'" she said. "Condoms are available, but I think many people don't use them."

Tasteful, open discussion was suggested as a good preventative step in preventing the spread of AIDS. Some countries deal with this problem differently than the United States.

Steele complimented the commercials devoted to AIDS in Germany.

"They're done tastefully, and I was amazed at how they portrayed AIDS compared to the U.S.," she said. "They're more straightforward than the U.S. commercials."

Steele also proposed incorporating AIDS education into foreign student orientations at the beginning of every school year.

"I think there should be a special program for foreign students concerning AIDS, sexual behavior and dating in the United States," she said.

"People with AIDS or carrying AIDS should not be shut out. That's not a solution to the problem," student Trixy Mainville said, adding it is also wrong to exclude or specifically blame particular countries for the AIDS virus.