

Governor says Oregon's schools are doing well

SALEM (AP) — Oregon leads much of the country in progressing toward six national education goals outlined Monday, Gov. Barbara Roberts said.

The National Education Goals Panel issued a national report card on headway being made toward the schooling goals for the year 2000.

The goals were established two years ago by President Bush and governors at an education summit meeting.

Roberts said Oregon has taken steps "to remain a leader in innovative change. Nothing demonstrates this principle better than the creation of the Workforce Quality Council and the passage of the Educational Act for the 21st Century."

The act, for example, calls for adequate funds to expand Head Start preschool programs for all eligible low-income children by 1998.

The governor said this ties in with the national goal of ensuring that by the year 2000 all children start school ready to learn.

She said the Workforce Quality Council can help reach a goal of making every adult literate by 2000 and have the knowledge and skills to compete in a global economy.

The council is supposed to coordinate numerous education, training and job placement programs around the state.

Another goal calls for a high school graduation rate of at least 90 percent.

Roberts said the education reform law relates to that by creating certificates of mastery at grades 10 and 12 and establishing a system whereby students can take primarily vocational-technical or college preparation courses after the 10th grade.

She also approved two other parts of the reform laws: the lengthening of the school year by 2010 and the assessing of students' programs at four grade levels. Roberts says those reforms can help ensure students are competent in basic subjects by the time they leave high school.

REGIONAL BRIEFS

Columnist's plea is Portland mayor's gain

PORTLAND (AP) — Dollar bills are flowing into Mayor Bud Clark's office thanks to a column in *The Oregonian* urging the public to help retire his \$71,650 campaign debt.

On Monday morning, nearly 690 letters for Clark arrived at City Hall.

Phil Stanford wrote a newspaper column saying people should send in their dollars to the mayor. He also urged citizens to write a little farewell message on the money.

The column came after a recent \$100-a-plate, black-tie fund-raiser at the Convention Center actually increased Clark's campaign deficit because it was poorly attended.

Clark is in Japan attending a conference. His secretary, Diane Trudo, opened the letters.

"It's delightful!" Trudo said as she ripped open a letter from four lawyers who practice in Tualatin. She pulled out four scratch lottery tickets.

The lawyers' letter said: "We enclosed Oregon Lottery tickets in hopes that you can receive more than we otherwise could afford to contribute."

By noon, Trudo opened about 230 letters and the contributions totaled \$992. The donations ranged from \$1 to \$250.

Defazio gives part of salary to colleges

PORTLAND (AP) — Rep. Peter Defazio, who has been returning a portion of his congressional pay raises to the U.S. Treasury, says he will now start sending money to Oregon colleges.

When Defazio, D-Ore., came to Congress in 1987, his pay was \$77,000 a year. It's now \$125,000, but since the first pay raise after his arrival he has accepted an amount equal to the cost-of-living raises given Social Security recipients and turned back the rest to the U.S. Treasury.

Defazio said last week that he will send only half the money to the Treasury and the other half will go into scholarships at Oregon colleges.

This year, that will provide the University of Oregon with \$2,000 for its Presidential Schol-

arship program. In addition, Lane, Umpqua and Southwestern Oregon community colleges each will get slightly more than \$2,000 for a one-year, full-tuition scholarship.

"I could not have gone to college without federal student loans and this is my way of giving someone else a hand," said Defazio, a graduate of Tufts University in Massachusetts. "I realize that many people cannot afford a college education."

"Unfortunately, the education president's response is to reduce the number of awards by 750,000."

Field-burning issue sparks boycott

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — The Idaho Grain Producers Association has joined its counterpart in Washington state in calling for a boycott of The Coeur d'Alene Resort over the grass-burning issue.

The 1,200-member Idaho group, like the Washington Association of Wheat Growers, has many members who also grow Kentucky bluegrass.

Grass growers torch their fields each fall to shock the crop into producing more seed, often blanketing the Spokane-Coeur d'Alene area with smoke.

"There's a strong sentiment among producers that (Duane) Hagadone (resort owner) is very anti-agriculture," said Idaho Grain executive director Steve Johnson. "This (sentiment) is developed through the newspapers he owns. They don't perceive that the resort is anti-agriculture."

The Washington association asked the National Association of Wheat Growers to move its July 1992 leadership convention from The Coeur d'Alene Resort to a competitor's hotel. Up to 350 people were expected to attend.

Hagadone and his family own a number of northern Idaho newspapers, including the Coeur d'Alene Press and the KVNI-AM radio station.

The Washington wheat growers suggested moving to Templin's Resort Hotel in Post Falls or to Spokane.

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