

# Ex-justice: Packwood rumors circulated for years

PORTLAND (AP) — Rumors that Sen. Bob Packwood sexually harassed women circulated for years in Oregon, former Oregon Supreme Court Justice Betty Roberts said Monday.

Lobbyists wanting something from Packwood were advised to send a woman, she said.

"Those kinds of sort of cute comments have been floating around for a long, long time," said Roberts, the first woman to serve on Oregon's highest court.

She said the tone grew more serious when victims began coming to women's groups with their experiences.

"We began then to understand that there were some very serious problems,"

Roberts said.

Roberts and 12 other feminists and women's rights advocates issued a statement Monday expressing sadness and anger at the revelations.

At a news conference, the women refused as a group to urge Packwood to resign, but 10 said they thought he should step down.

"I think probably that resignation might be difficult for the senator," Roberts said. "It nevertheless would be the easiest course for Oregonians."

She said women would file ethics complaints or try to recall Packwood if necessary to force him from office.

Packwood, R-Ore., has been a strong

advocate of abortion rights and women's rights throughout his 24 years in the Senate. But *The Washington Post* reported Sunday that 10 women said they were victims of unwelcome and uninvited sexual advances by Packwood. Five women, quoted by name, described how Packwood kissed them against their will.

*The Post* said Packwood first denied the allegations, then prepared memos intended to cast doubt on the truthfulness of his accusers. Packwood finally issued an apology without admitting any wrongdoing.

State Rep. Gail Shibley, D-Portland, compared Packwood's attacks on his ac-

cusers to the treatment last year of Anita Hill. Hill said she was sexually harassed by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. She underwent tough questioning by Republicans on the all-male Senate Judiciary Committee during confirmation hearings for Thomas. Packwood was one of two Republican senators who eventually voted against Thomas.

"Sen. Packwood should walk his talk about respecting women, about honoring diversity, about commanding leadership and walk right out of the United States Senate," Shibley said at Monday's news conference.



Protesters chanted "action not words" and "sisters united will never be divided" as they gathered on the front lawn of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity Monday night.

## MARCH

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(y members) not to internalize this problem," she said. "Phi Psi was the first to admit that there is a problem, and they're trying to do something about it."

Rauch replied by yelling that the effort still falls short.

"I had to make an issue of this before they would do anything," she said. "I had to use my face and make my name public."

Jodi Stemach, Greeks Against Rape co-founder, said her group is making an effort, but she admitted "the greek system

does condone rape in certain aspects."

The protesters pounced on her statement with shouts and laughter and demanded fraternity members come out and speak for themselves.

"We don't want to fight with women," a female protester shouted. "Get the men out here."

Govro appeared and read a short, prepared statement.

"Phi Kappa Psi will not tolerate or condone physical, mental or emotional abuse of any kind to women," he said. "We have hosted open forums and have others planned for the rest of the year."

## STREETWISE

QUESTION:

So, uh, what's up?

"I'm going home to go to sleep and then I'm ready to play poker at the dorms. I got my poker boots, poker jeans and poker face on."



JENNIFER WACHTEL  
freshman, sociology

"School is killing me. I've had too many midterms, and there is too much work and studying to be done before the term is over."



DOUFFY YOUUM  
junior, accounting

"Well, God, that's a pretty open-ended question. From a personal standpoint, I got over the hump with midterms and am enjoying a brief respite where I can relax before tearing into finals."



J.P. OUELLEITE  
senior, sociology

"Green bud."



GRAHAM MOTE  
freshman, undeclared

"Well, sales are a little slow, but they will be picking up in a minute. We finally got rid of Bush, almost, and Measure 9 failed."



FROG  
sidewalk personality

"Not much. School is really hard because I'm not used to these kinds of classes. And Oregon needs more parties."



KATHI MORINAKA  
freshman, business

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