

Hatfield to receive honorary degree

By Allison Hewitt
Freelance Reporter

Former U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield will address the Class of 1997 on Saturday, June 14, at the University of Oregon's 120th Commencement.

Hatfield, who served for 30 years in the U.S. Senate before retiring in January, will also receive an honorary doctorate at the ceremony — the second honorary degree to be bestowed by the University in 51 years. Two years ago, the University awarded former Philippine President Corazon Aquino with an honorary degree.

The Commencement will begin at 12:30 at Hayward Field, and Hatfield will speak immediately following the presentation of his degree. His speech, which is scheduled to last for approximately 15 minutes, will address the topic of international relations.

University President Dave Frohnmayer will confer the honorary degree and preside over the

Commencement.

"Senator Hatfield is a true statesman whose integrity, intelligence and commitment to helping shape a better future for Oregonians make him deserving of this distinction," Frohnmayer said. "We are honored to recognize his extraordinary accomplishments with this degree and to welcome him as Commencement Speaker."

Hatfield will receive a \$1500 honorarium for speaking at the ceremony, said Maureen Shine, deputy director of the Office of Communications. But Hatfield will donate the money in his wife's name to the University Museum of Art, she said.

Among his contributions, Hatfield is credited with helping the University to obtain \$33.4 million in federal funding to construct a four-building science complex, Willamette Hall, which was completed in 1989. University Provost John Mosely said Hatfield's role in the process was in-

strumental, and the new facilities have "allowed the University to move into a new era in science teaching and research."

In the U.S. Senate, Hatfield was known as an independent legislator who voted his conscience. He was an outspoken critic of the Vietnam War and was committed to finding peaceful resolutions to world conflicts.

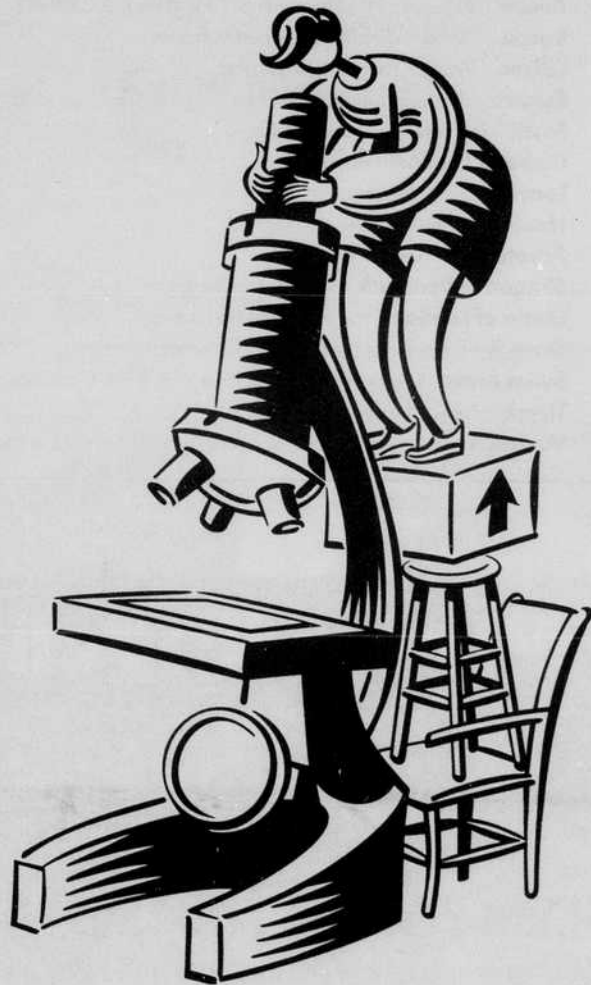
He consistently opposed increases in defense spending and U.S. Military abroad, while focusing on enhancements for health, education and social service programs. He was also an active proponent of nuclear disarmament, and he led the fight against the MX missile, the stealth bomber and underground testing.

Hatfield will attend the Commencement brunch at the Knight Library preceding the ceremony.

Approximately 1,600 of the 3,200 degree candidates will attend the ceremony at Hayward Field, and 12,000-15,000 guests are expected to attend as well.

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