

# Support still needed to fight ERA battle

the disrupted rhythm of their lives, now secure that equality has been won.

While glorying in our own state's decision, three more states are needed for ratification and there is little more than a year left. Negotiations for a deadline extension may or may not materialize. Meanwhile are we going to let the guarantee of equal rights under the law, so tantalizingly near, elude our grasp? Granted, there are still those in Oregon working full-tilt for complete ratification, but how many

of us, now that Oregon has planted itself firmly on the side of women, feel we have done our share and withdraw from the campaign still being waged in other states?

And is our state really secure? Is any state? Anti-ERA forces have not slackened their efforts to in fact, gained great momentum.

Four states have tried to rescind approval of the ERA because of pressure from these forces. Fortunately, the Justice

Department has ruled that unconstitutional or we would be facing a more ominous battle.

All people who believe in the ERA and want to see it passed must continue to work and fight

for ratification. But, just as important, we must stay constantly alert to forces in our own state trying to undermine the ground work that has been so laboriously laid towards human equality.

note: The following appeared in the Feb. 23 issue of the Portland Community College.

women complacently pat their backs and congratulate each other on a battle well fought while the Equal Rights Amendment slips quietly away? In states where ERA has been approved, it seems that the fight is won and we can go back to their communities and homes to take up

## Students like segregated smoking


Brandel... in the cafeteria at you are just about ready your first bite of that sandwich that you have been thinking about all morning of a sudden it hits you. you think that it is your eyes getting blurry of that midnight cramming you did last night for your morning exam. But you finally realize that it is floating towards you in a floating cloud and it puts a dent in your

the back room as a non-smoking area was great."

From these responses, it would seem that the designated no-smoking areas are a good idea. If everyone will respect

each others rights, there should be no real problems at all in the future. Then everyone can really enjoy their lunch and be able to taste what they are eating at the same time.

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is it? It is the smoke in the cafeteria that comes from smoking cigarettes during the time. "But, you say, can we do about it?" The answer has already been

noticed, for the weeks tables have been set for non-smokers, and in the back of the cafe also been posted as a non-smoking area. Now, you can see if this is a good idea. Let's find out what the students around here think.

A good idea," Jill Wright said. "I don't want to eat and smoke at the same time. If I want to smoke, they can go somewhere else. They don't want to spoil it for every-

Haatia said, "It's all right. People don't want to smoke while they're eating. They shouldn't have to. They shouldn't be doing it in restaurants either, so why not here."

Albeke said, "I like to stand it when I have to eat to someone who is eating. I don't mind if they smoke, but I would be polite if they didn't smoke around others."

"It's a good idea," said Steve. "I don't smoke. Smoking can bother some people. There's no conflict between smokers and non-smokers."

The sentence seems to be a response from the person I talked to. Even though they don't smoke, they don't think the present plan is a good idea. They want to enjoy having a place where they can smoke without bothering non-smokers.

"It's great," said Steve. "One improvement would be to make the area for non-smokers."

They think they're very lucky they have them. Brenda Nolan said, "I don't want to have a non-smoking area. The idea about the Community College

